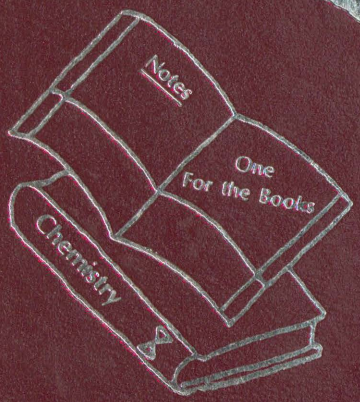
Echoes...

Merrill High School



1971

MARVIN BOTT

ch.

Mary,
you are a sweet girl. Stay that way. Good luck with your future and with your Dawn. I hope you and her stay together forever.
"90"
Trent*
Love,
Jaica
Brown

Mary,
Dawn

Mary, I want you to know that I love you very much. I'm so happy that we met each other. I'm so happy that we met each other. I'm so happy that we met each other

Yllow,
Hay good
luck in the
future + have
a great time with
Dawn Stay cool!
Frenz
+ Love
"90" Karrie
lives Johnson

Marvin.
Hey Bud!
All I can say
is good-luck in
the future and I
want to thank-you for
being there for me when I
needed to talk. Don't change
at all - cause your fine the way
you are. Your the greatest bro anyone
could ever have.
Love always "90"
Tammy Rules
(Sis)

MERRILL

eCHOES '87!

1 for the BOOKS

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ONE FOR THE BOOKS

When one glances over their shoulder at 1987 it becomes a stare. We notice those truly out of the ordinary moments we have experienced. The Yearbook Staff has dedicated this book to all those special moments and people that have made this year "One for the Books."

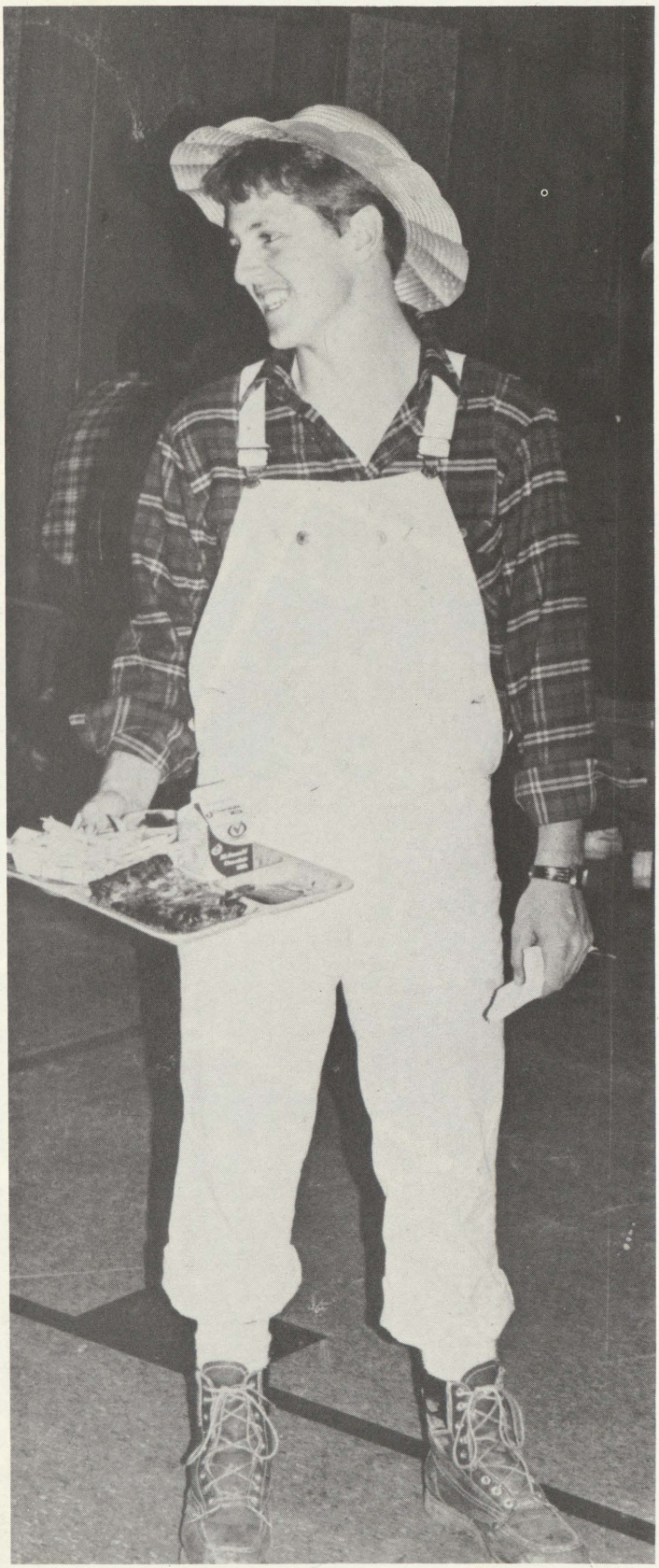
The 1986-87 school year was undoubtedly one of the best years in Merrill's long and prestigious history. Although the year started with some of the worst flooding ever seen in this area, it ended with high spirits and sunny weather. This year saw the return of the Drama Club and also Track. Many other events have been included too, including the senior trip. Never forget to always remember the friends and fun of Merrill High.

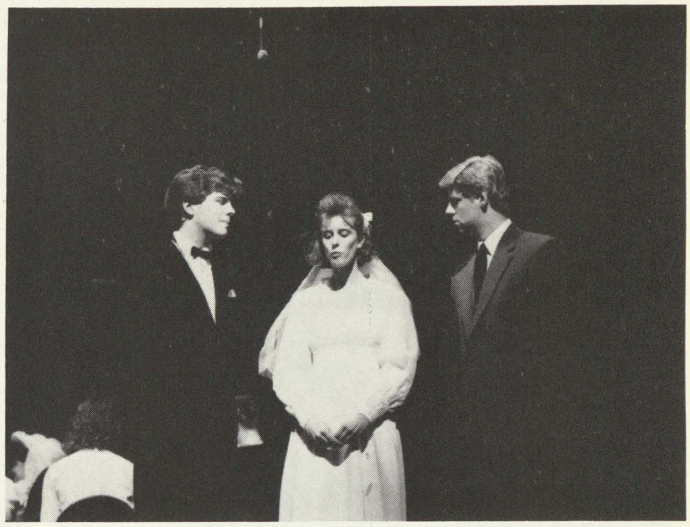
Top Left: Senior Ann Coppens also known as "Victoria Vandal."

Top Right: Jodie "Speedster" Boyd shows her spirit at a basketball game.

Middle Right: Jorri Anderson drinks a Jeckel-Hyde potion.

Bottom: Vandal fans again show they have what it takes.



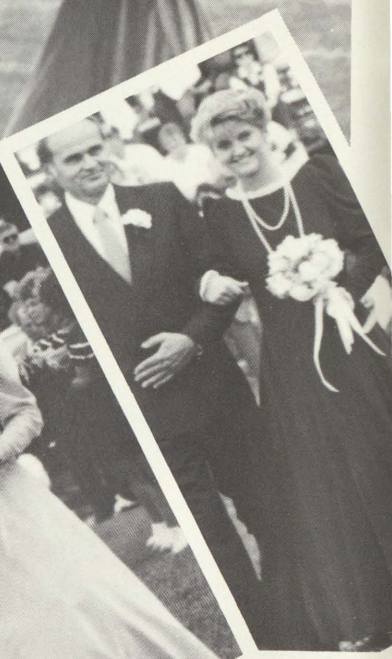


Left: Scott Blair enjoys the down home cooking in the lunchroom.

Top Right: Andy Fortin, Tammy Syrek and Tim Ribble bring the school stage back to life in the play **Our Town.**

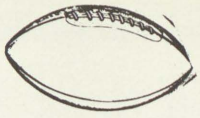
Lower Right: A warm smile from Joe Jewel is enough to brighten anyone's day.

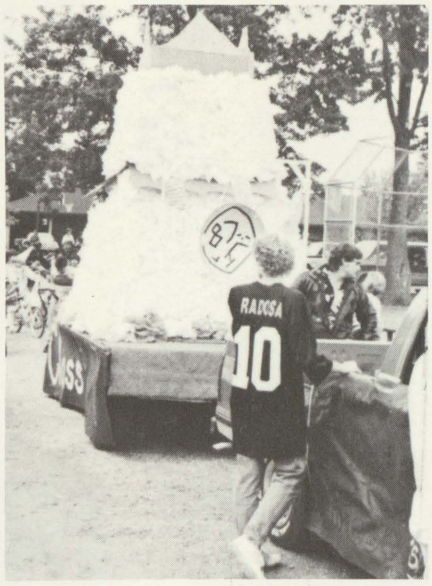
SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL



ACTIVITIES 1987

HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS ...





The loudspeaker blared out, "Welcome to the 68th Homecoming of Merrill High." For some it seemed unreal that their classmates were representing them out on the field, and for others it seemed light years away.

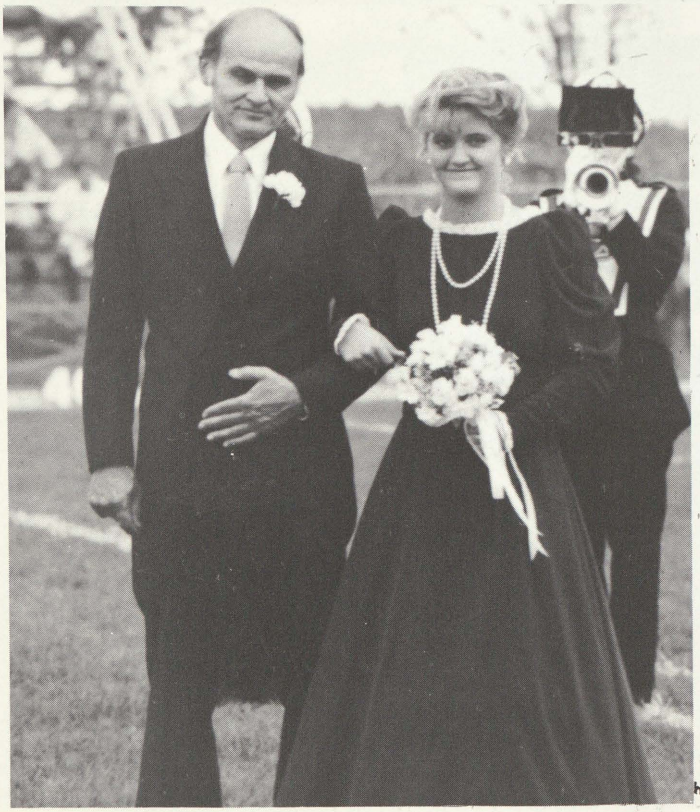
The whistle sounded -- signaling Coronation Ceremonies were about to begin. The pom-pon squad took their position on the field, as did the band members.

Escorted by her father, princess Jodie Boyd made her way to the spot marked for her.

Next, princess Julie Kennedy strolled to her position with her father. After progressing through the path made by the pom-pon squad, princess Michelle Kennedy took her place on the field. Escorted by her father, princess Rachel Michael took her place next to princess Julie. Finally, princess Ann Searles and her father positioned themselves amongst the royalty.

As Mr. Barnes announced the princes, prince Matt Mikusko joined his princess, but the others were no where to be seen.

Top Left: Seniors "WOK" away with first place.
Top Right: Michelle Kennedy waits for the fortune cookie to crack.
Bottom Right: Vandal's offense tries quarterback sneak.



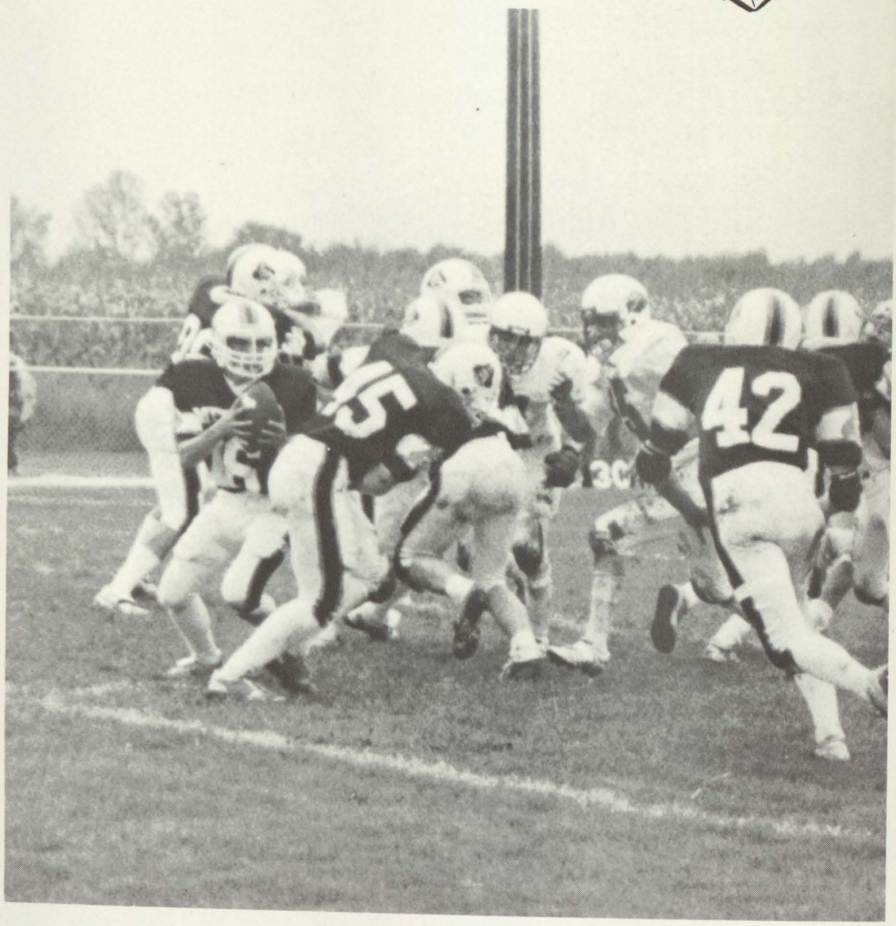
Top Left: Sophmores "egg roll" into 4th place.
Middle Left: Juniors' proverb wasn't fulfilled.
Bottom Left: Rachel Michael escorted by her father Mr. Robert Michael.
Top Right: The first moment of Queen Ann's reign.

A NIGHT IN THE ORIENT

The band stopped playing and everyone waited for the princes on the football team to appear. But, because of their dedication to win the game, princes Brian Fleming, Mark Montgomery, Mike Petricevic, and Tony Stewart never arrived.

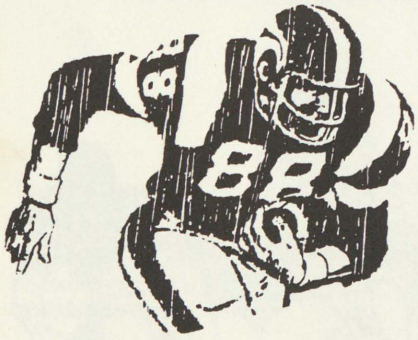
After waiting some time, Mr. Barnes motioned for the drum roll. "Ladies and Gentlemen, the 1986-87 Homecoming is ... King Tony Stewart, and representing the Class of 1987 is ... Queen Ann Searles.

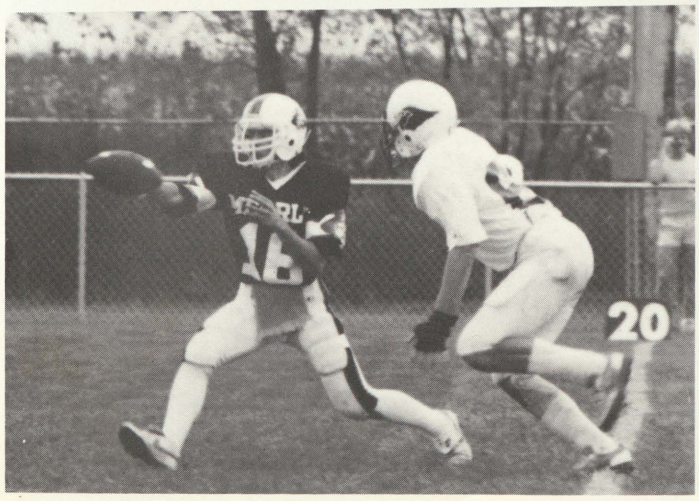
Principal Roy Fortin presented our new queen with the traditional game ball and a dozen roses. Following all the afternoon festivities was the annual Homecoming Ball, with coronation ceremonies.



Top Right: The Vandal offense tries a quarterback sneak.

Bottom Right: Princess Julie Kennedy, escorted by her father, enjoys the company of her loyal prince, Matt Mikusko.





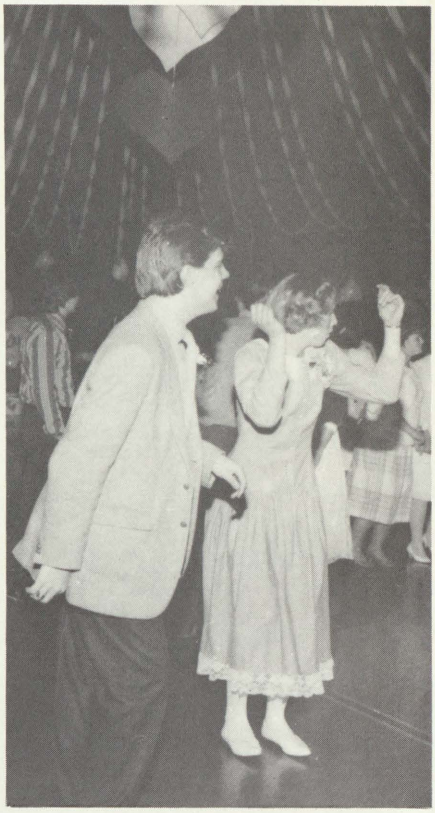
Top Left: Princess Jodie Boyd waves to her royal subjects.
Middle Left: The freshman fan club.
Bottom Left: Scott Brokaw. Will he catch it?
Top Right: A Vandal ball carrier stopped just short of a first down.
Bottom Right: Amy Pettigrove disappointed to see Merrill defeated.

87' Sweetheart Ball

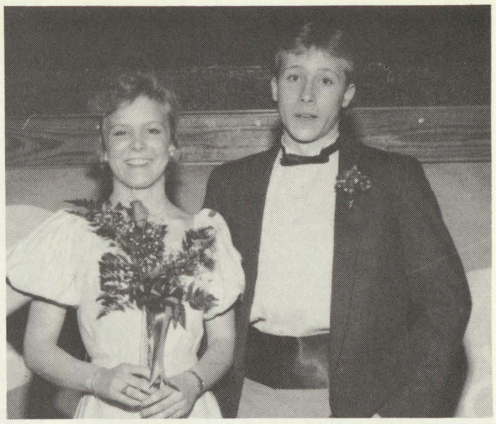
The 1987 Sweetheart Ball was held on the perfect evening for a dance - Valentine's Day! Members of the FFA and FHA organizations chose one couple to represent each class at the Ball. Representing the Freshman Class were Lori Kennedy and David Beckly. Chosen from the Sophomore Class were Lesly Hale and Ken Coppens. The Junior Class chose Becky Ellsworth and Jeff Buckley. The four Senior Representatives were Jodie Boyd and Mark Montgomery along with Lisa Foy and Brian Fleming.

The members of the FFA and FHA then chose as the 1987 Sweethearts, Lisa Foy and Brian Fleming. The elegant couple (accompanied by the rest of the representatives) then danced to the theme song, "Will You Still Love Me?" by Chicago.

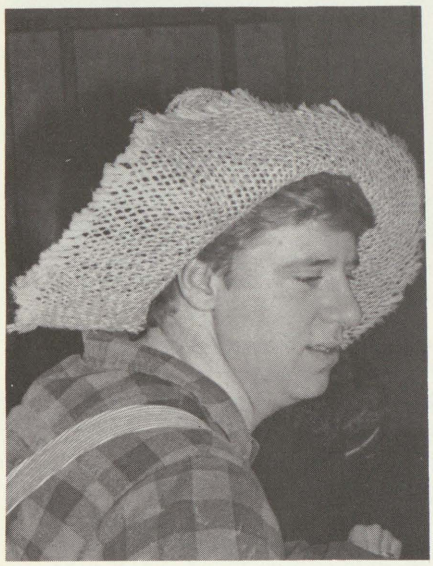
Music that evening was provided by Banana Productions and their estranged "cupid" dressed in an ape suit. The hairy matchmaker mingled with the crowd and led such musical games as The Bird, The Hokey Pokey, and the YMCA.



Top Left: Sweethearts Brian and Lisa in the traditional cutting of the cake.
Top Right: FFA Vice-President and Nicole Gutknecht enjoy the festivities.
Bottom (L to R): Lori June, Traica Brown, and Tammy Dillon dance to the current hits.



Top Left: Senior Sweethearts Brian Fleming and Lisa Foy.
Top Right: Sophomore Reps. Lesly Hale and Kenny Coppens.
Lower Right: Senior Reps. Mark Montgomery and Jodie Boyd.
Bottom Right: Junior Reps. Becky Ellsworth and Jeff Buckley.
Bottom Left: Freshmen Reps. Lori Kennedy and David Beckly.



Clockwise: Tim Ribble, Ann Searles, Jodi Boyd, Nicole Gutknecht, Michelle Miller, Hannah Hensel and Kyle Siler. All showing their Sadie Spirit.

SADIE HAWKINS

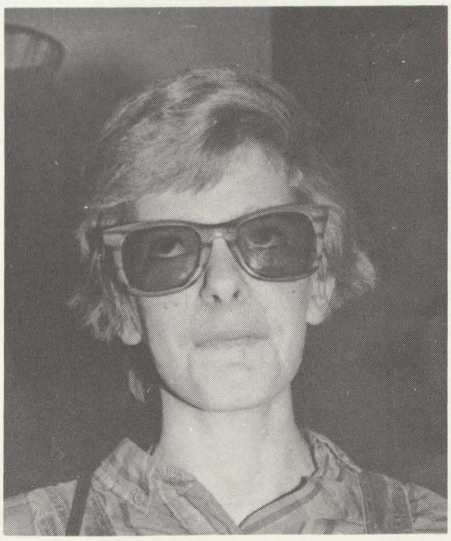
Sadie Hawkins week once again filled the halls with farout faces and designer deerskins. The "week" began on Wednesday with beach day. All of the happy students put on their sunglasses for fun in the sun. Thursday was spirit day and orange and black clothes could be seen throughout the school.

The climax of the week came on Friday, which was Sadie day. Plaid flannel shirts and denim overalls seemed to be the fashion choice. At two o'clock the backwoods brigade gathered in the gym for the annual Sadie Hawkins assembly.

The assembly began with a skit by the student council. Next the polyester pair of Andy Fortin and Hannah Hensel were crowned Mr. and Mrs. Sadie Hawkins. The festivities continued with Chris Dominowski winning the bannana split eating contest. The surprise of the day came as the Juniors triumphed over the seniors in the tug-of-war. The assembly concluded with the faculty taking on the student council in volleyball.

Saturday night saw the ghastly group gather once again for the Sadie dance. After being "married" by the student council the casual couples headed to the dance floor.

As the clock struck midnight all of the polyester princesses and denim dukes had to rush home before they turned into pumpkins.



Top: Traci Petricevic, Michele Fleming, admire the fine workmanship of Maureen Michael's boot.

Bottom Left: Ann Coppens showing off her dude ranch duds.

Bottom Right: Joanna Smith bears her sunglasses because of the shining spirit of Sadie Hawkins.

Top Left: Joe Jewell and his date, Tammy Dickinson, enjoy banquet ceremonies at Prom.

Top Right: Don Sherman stands quietly aside while Mariah Hesse talks with friends.

Middle Left: Greg Miller and Kelly Siler enjoy slow dancing along with other couples.

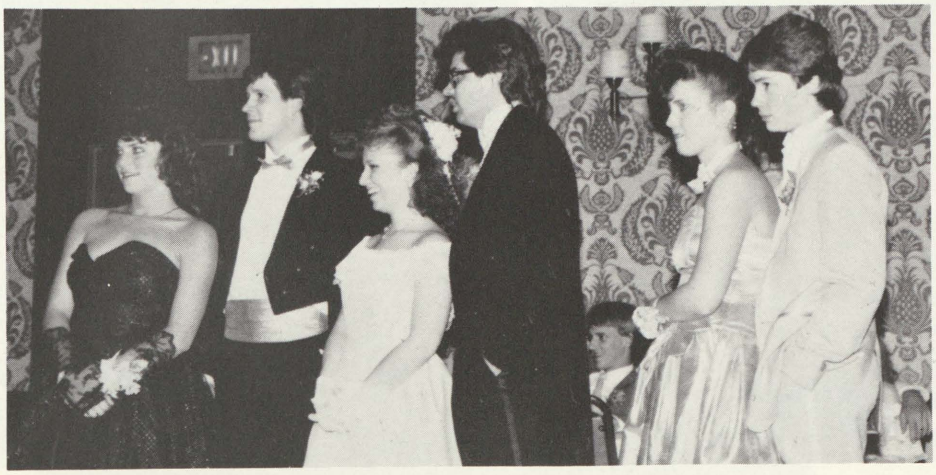
Middle Right: Sue Gutierrez tries to cover her laugh while listening to the prophecy.

Bottom: The Gumrappers, also known as Class of 1987 top ten, entertained with a Merrill farewell rap to end the prom evening.

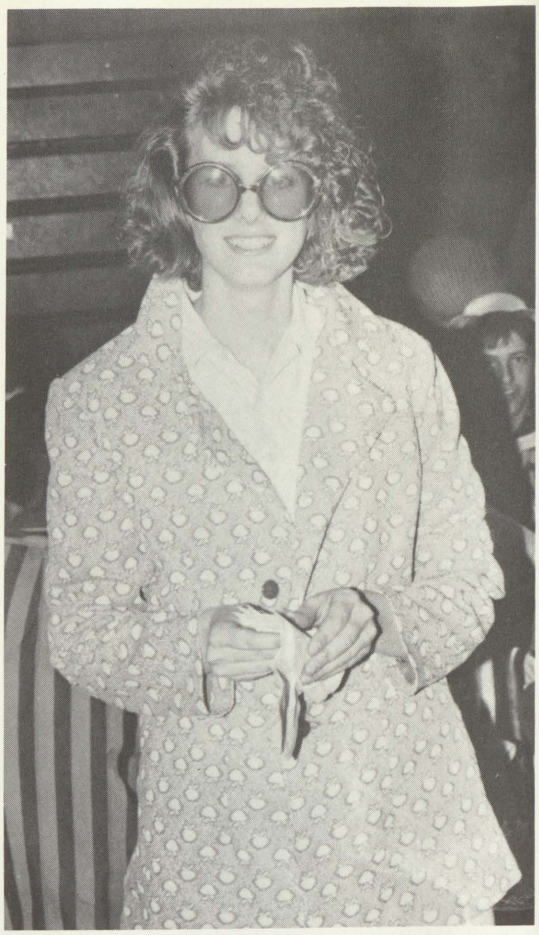
PROM

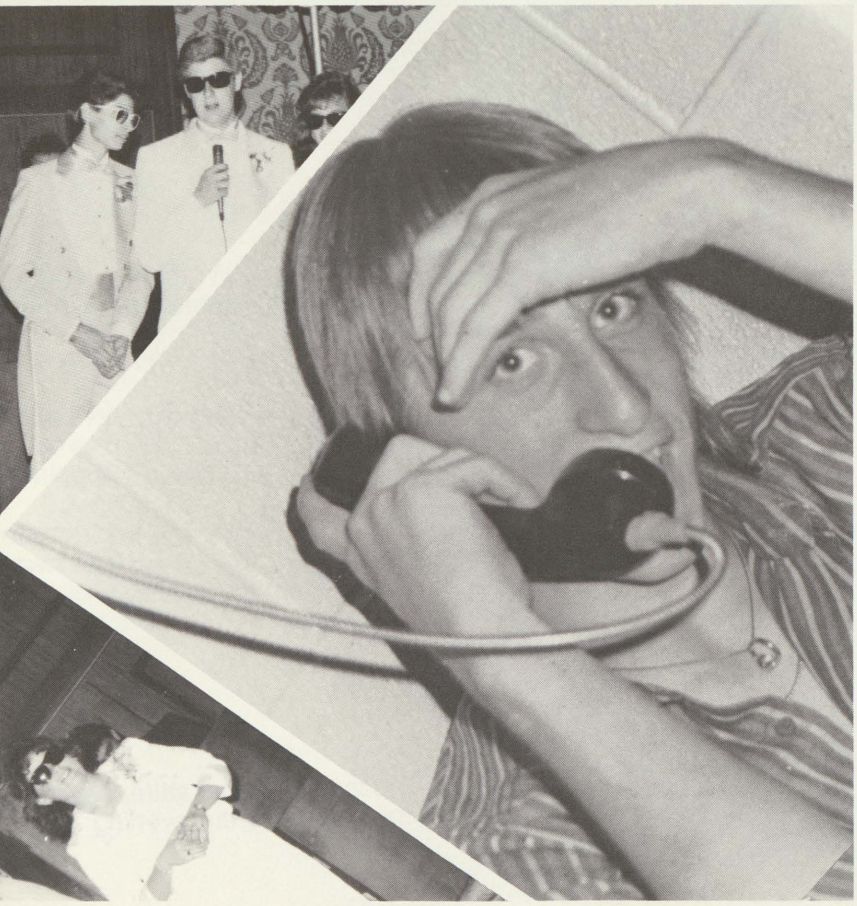
If only one event could be remembered in the 1986-87 school year it would have to be the Junior-Senior Prom. This statement is made from one unique tradition-breaking characteristic...the Prom was away from Merrill High. Both Junior and Senior representatives gave a hefty sigh of relief when the "okay" was given to hold the Prom at the Le Grande Ballroom in the Sheraton Fashion Square Mall. Excited by the new feeling of "ritz" the Prom was attended by record number of couples. These couples vowed to "Never Say Goodbye" as Bon Jovi reminded them of their pledge, singing the prom theme. Bill Howard entertained the new upper class with dancing music, while some couples sat back to reflect on the incredible night they had just experienced.

Merrill Gum Wrappers: Kelly Siler, Tim Ribble, and Ann Searles.



Dressed in formal attire, several couples enjoy the evening.





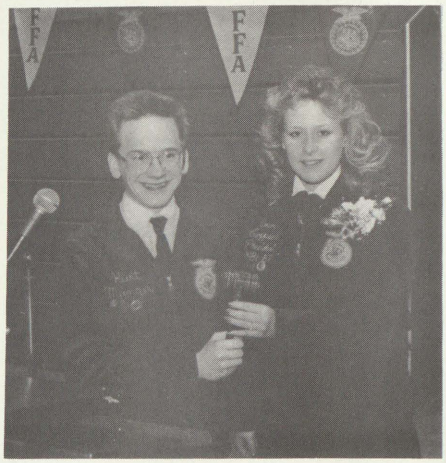
CLUBS

1987

Future Farmers

"This could be one of the best officer-teams and members to make up the Merrill FFA in years," quoted excited advisor Richard Barnes as he glanced at this 1986-87 Merrill FFA Chapter. The officers he was referring to were President - Ann Coppens, Vice-President - Andy Fortin, Secretary - Kurt Munger, Treasurer- Kyle Siler, Reporter - Jodie Boyd, and Sentinel - Christie Nieman.

The strong membership supported the First Annual FFA Pig Roast which as incredibly successful. With this spark that ignited the fire of the Merrill FFA, it was certainly an indication that 1986-87 was a year to remember.

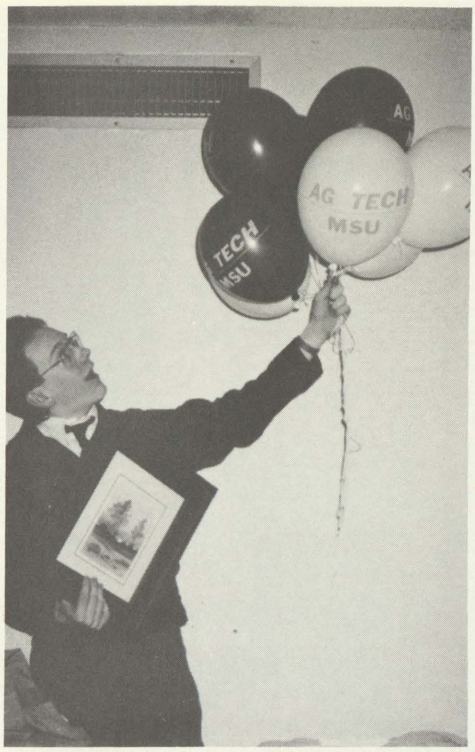


Top Right - Ann Coppens did an excellent job as President of the FFA.

Middle Right - Ann Coppens passes the gavel to Kurt Munger, the new FFA President.

Bottom Right - Christie Nieman enjoys the First Annual FFA Pig Roast.

Left - Making the most of it during the black out at the FFA State Convention.



Top Left - Kurt Munger looks at his HOT air balloons!

Top Right - The 1986-87 FFA Officers.

Bottom Left - These FFA members are enjoying the Pig Roast.

Top Left: Tammy Dickinson finds quilting to be just "sew-sew."

Top Right: Melissa Carr, FHA State President, speaks about the importance of leadership.

Bottom: The 1986-87 officers are installed.

FUTURE HOMEMAKERS

With the theme of Reach For The Stars for Chapter Officer Leadership Workshop the Merrill Chapter did just that for the 1986-87 school year.

Melissa Carr led the State Association to a great year as State President. Busy at the Regional level holding offices were Annette Guzinski, Mary Lori Volz, and Melissa Siler.

As many members kept busy with other levels of FHA throughout the state the Merrill chapter officers were busy at home. Starting out the year with Homecoming and helping the FFA with their First Annual Pig Roast, then finally the 2nd annual BYOB (Bring your Own Banana) membership drive party. Although the annual fund raiser, Tom Watt showed a fall in sales,The Chapter was still able to co-sponsor the Sweetheart Ball and hold the carnation sale.

To wind up the years event for FHA, they took 20 active members to compete in action events. The chapter came home with 4 first ratings and a new state officer, Melissa Carr. Melissa is going to run for a national office at the National Convention this summer in Washington D.C.

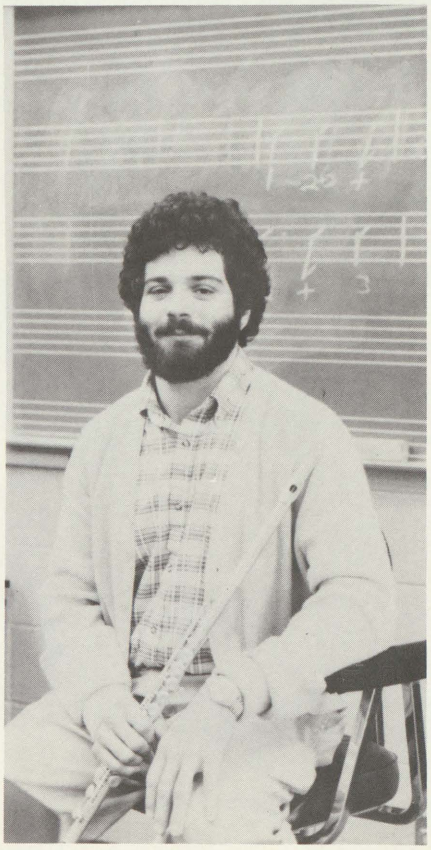
Top: The 1986-87 officers conduct a ceremony.

Far Right: Rachel and Maureen Michael enjoy the Halloween Party.

Middle Left: Advisor Skeeter Kampmueller asks Jodie Boyd how she likes FHA.

Bottom Left: Mrs. Kampmueller concludes the years with a speech at the FHA Banquet.

The Merrill marching band looks impressive on the field under Mr. Miller's leadership.



Band Director Mr. Tim Miller.

Theresa Londry with a look of concentration as she performs with her saxophone.

HONORS BAND

The band members faced a new challenge as they were greeted by their new 1986-87 band director, Mr. Tim Miller. They started the season with band camp at Merrill to prepare for the home football games. The marching Vandals received growing enthusiasm at games. The Christmas concert was also a big success.

Throughout the year the band marched in the annual Pride Parade, went to Festival, received an overall 2 rating, played for the Sons of Italy in Frankenmuth, performed many concerts, and in May competed in the Great Lakes Music Festival in Toronto, Canada.

Under Mr. Miller's direction, the band experienced new growth which will continue to improve and expand the program.

Band members must not only play well, but get into and out of formation at the same time. These five do it well!

Maureen Miller, Mary Lou Volz and Karin Lacker entertain parents and friends at graduation.

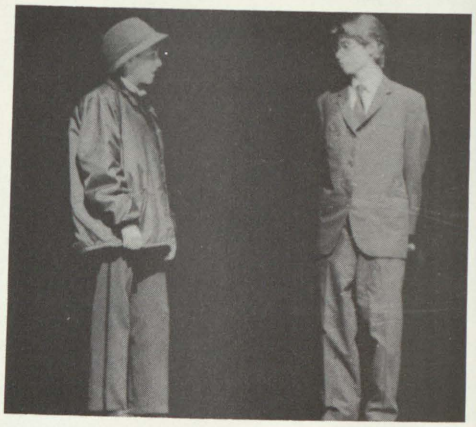
DRAMA CLUB

Twenty groggy faces entered a bare stage at 6:15 A.M. to begin work on the first play in over fifteen years.

It was always said that Merrill High School was populated with a bunch of good "actors", but could they really act in a classical play like **OUR TOWN?**

Director Sarah Nelson gave loud encouragement and inspired the group with forceful, but thoughtful, words of "LOUDER" and "PRONOUNCIATE"!

Ultimately the encouragement and practices paid off. The group gave a command performance that promised a tradition of "future plays."

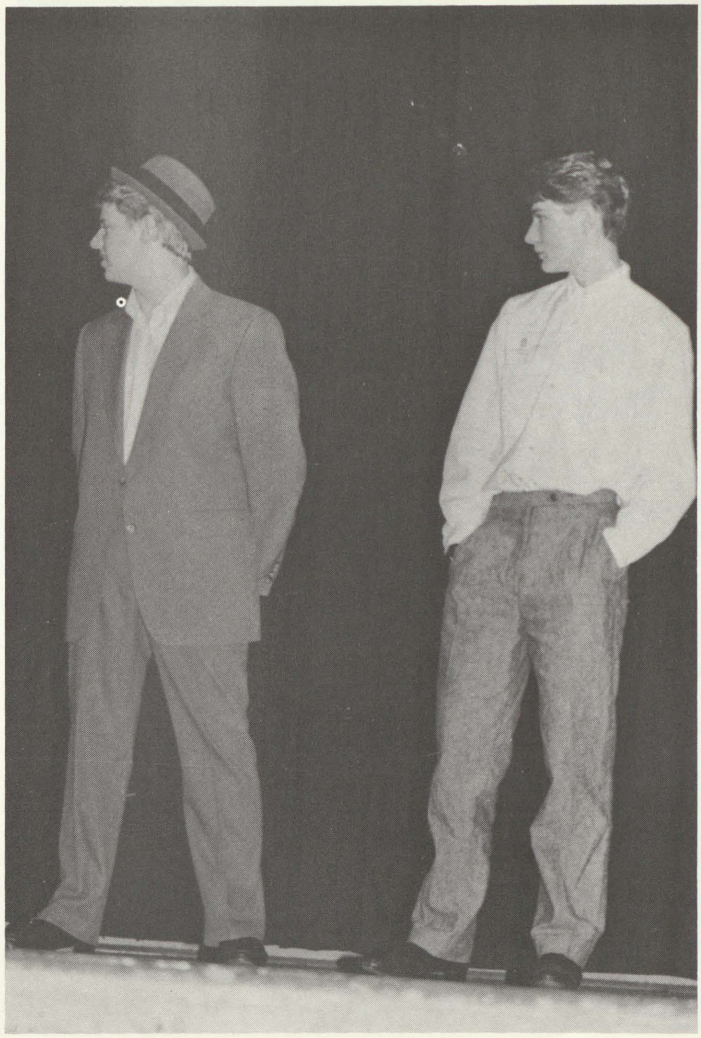


Ranee Miller "Mrs. Webb" giving her wedding soliloquy.

Lisa Siler hoping the play will come off well.

Ann Searles and Don Sherman conversing over the situation at hand.

The cast of "Our Town" from our town of Merrill.



Top Left: Tammy Syrek, Ranee Miller, and Amy Pettigrove, better known as the Webb family, enjoy a hearty breakfast.

Top Right: Hannah Hensel had the crowd laughing in hysterics as she staggered across the stage.

Bottom Left: Tim Ribble as Mr. Webb and Kyle Siler as Constable Warren both look dismayed.

Bottom Right: Amy Alvis as Rebecca Gibbs and Andy Fortin as George Gibbs demonstrate the art of sibling rivalry.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The 1986-87 Merrill High School Student Council made many valuable contributions to the entire student body. Members sponsored the annual Homecoming Ball and the Sadie Hawkins Hoe-Down.

In addition, they organized a fall and a spring blood drive in an effort to reach out to people beyond our school community. Many students and adults were eager to donate. The group also sponsored an Easter egg hunt which many young children enjoyed very much.

Beyond their efforts to help our school and the people of our whole area, the student body enjoyed their periodic skits at assemblies. Members livened programs up with their sharp wit and enthusiasm.

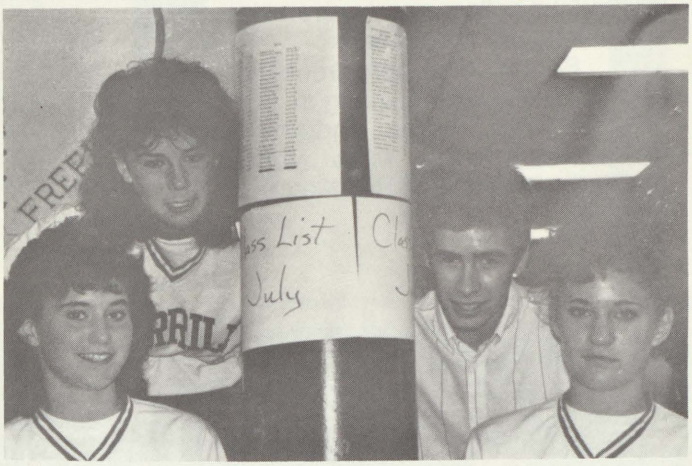
Top Right: Rachel Michael 1986-87 Student Council President poses for the picture.

Top Left: Lisa Siler 1986-87 Student Council Treasurer walks along the schools lawn barefoot and fancy free.

1986-87 Student Council. Back row: Treasurer Lisa Siler, Senior Representative Chris Thom, President Rachel Michael, Senior Representative Jill Bigelow, Vice President Julie Kennedy, Senior Representative Pam Koviack. Row Two: Junior Representatives Bill Debeau, Ranee Miller, Stephanie Siler, Amy Carlson, Row Three: Amy Alvis, Michelle Miller, Traci Petricevic, Cheryl Hockemeyer. Front Row: Lori Kennedy, Dana Witt, Aron Radosa, Todd Liedeke.

Missing: Senior Representative Kerri Benjamin, Secretary Kari Siler, Parliamentarian Lisa Foy.

CLASS OFFICERS



Junior Class Officers. Top Left: Treasurer, Stephanie Siler; Secretary, Jorri Anderson; Vice President, Becky Ellsworth; President, Ranee Miller.

Sophomore Class Officers. Top Right: Treasurer, Michelle Miller; Secretary, Joddie Siler; Vice President, Lesly Hale; President, Cindy Kennedy.

Senior Class Officers. Bottom Left: Secretary, Ann Coppens; Treasurer, Jill Bigelow; Vice President, Michelle Kennedy; President, Jodie Boyd.

Freshman Class Officers. Bottom Right: Vice President, Lori Kennedy; Treasurer, Dan Sherman; Secretary, Lisa White; President Julie Siler.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Merrill High School chapter of the National Honor Society sponsored a number of school projects during the 1986-87 academic year. Members tutored students from the elementary, middle, and high schools in a wide variety of subjects. In the fall they participated in a community project where they attempted to improve the appearance of the school by picking up litter.

Perhaps one of the most enjoyable projects was the reception for Merrill High School at Christmas. The National Honor Society hosted this event in the media center. Graduates shared information about the various colleges and universities which they now attend.

Senior members received recognition in the spring as new members were inducted. Advisors were Miss Nancy Galbraith and Mrs. Rita Klemish.

Merrill 1986-87 Chapter Officers. Left to Right: Amy Locke, President; Glen Pettigrove, Vice-President; Hannah Hensel, Secretary; Kelly Siler, Treasurer.

Senior Members. Bottom, Left to Right: Rita Klemish, Karen Honaman, Tammy Syrek, Amy Locke, Mariah Hesse, Ann Searles, Nancy Galbraith (advisor), Michelle Kennedy, Tim Ribble, Don Sherman, Karin Lacker, Kevin Kipfmiller, Kelly Siler, Brian Fleming, Lisa Foy, Jill Bigelow, Julie Kennedy, Dennis Hogan.

Junior Members. Bottom, Left to Right: Gary Waters, Sherry Knapp, Eileen Howe, Hannah Hensel, Stan Strowais, Rita Klemish (advisor), Nicole Gutknecht, Kurt Munger, Cindy Liediki, Laurie Wenzel, Lisa Stanford, Nancy Galbraith (advisor), Andrew Fortin, Glen Pettigrove, Jorri Anderson, Becky Ellsworth, Amy Carlson, Leesa Locke.

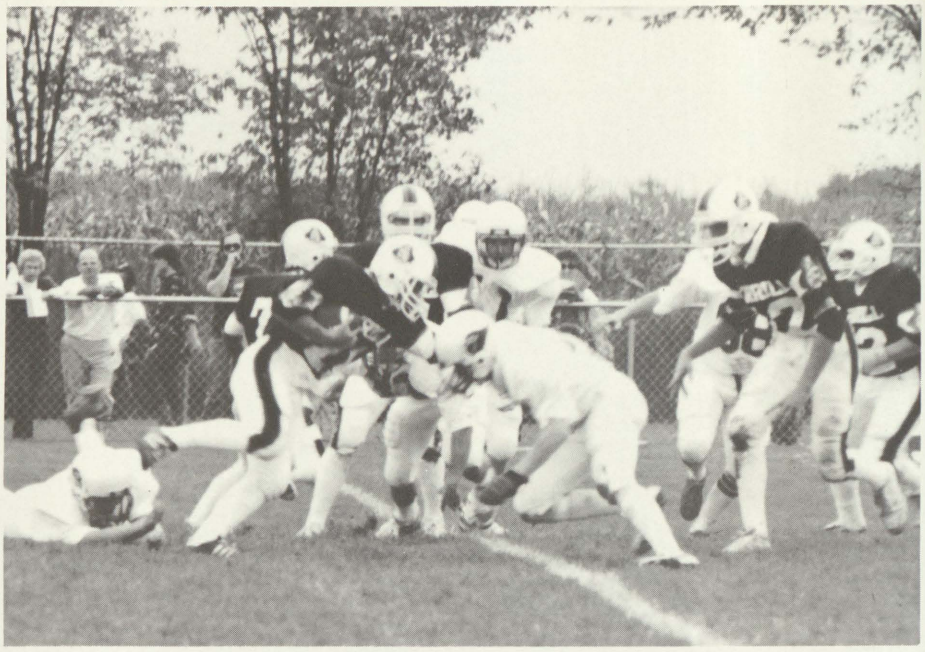
SPORTS

1987

Varsity Football

For the third straight year the Varsity Vandals continued to show great improvements on the field. The mighty Vandal s scored four crushing wins against Reese, Freeland, St. Louis, and Breckenridge.

In their final battle against U.S.A. the Vandals found themselves only one game from a winning season. Although the season ended with a total of four wins and five loses the Vandals proved to be a powerful force on the field.

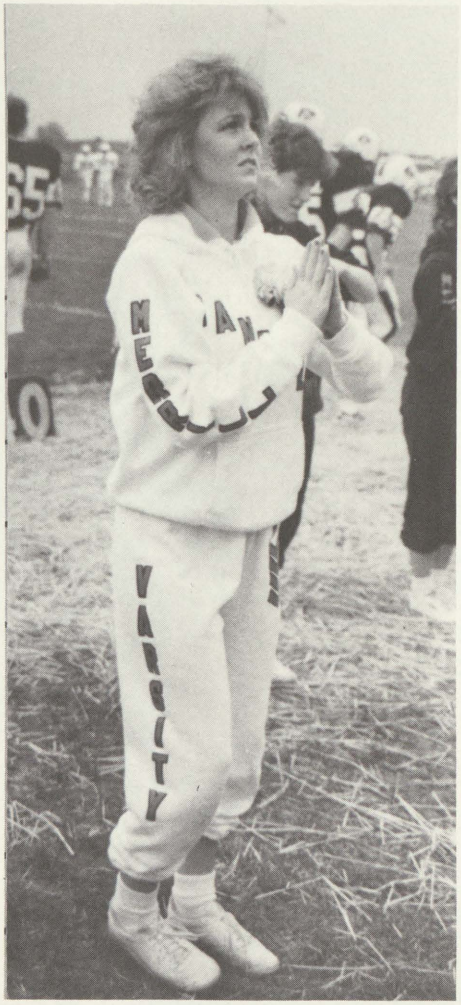


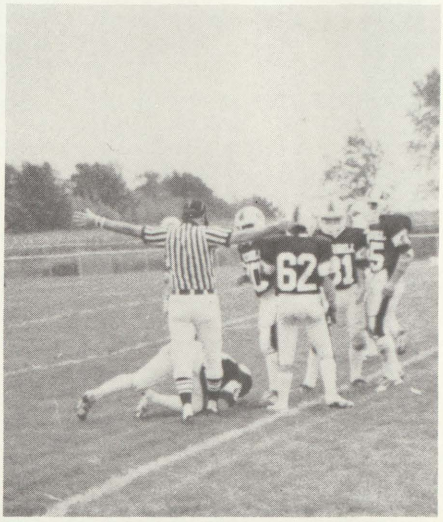
Top: Vandal offense goes for a first and ten.

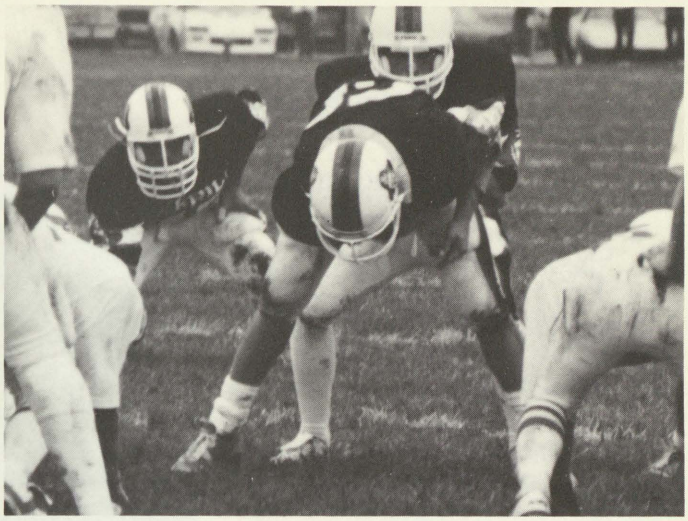
Middle Right: The art of interception!

Bottom Right: Just another stop on the Vandals way to victory.

Bottom Left : Lisa Foy leads a cheer.



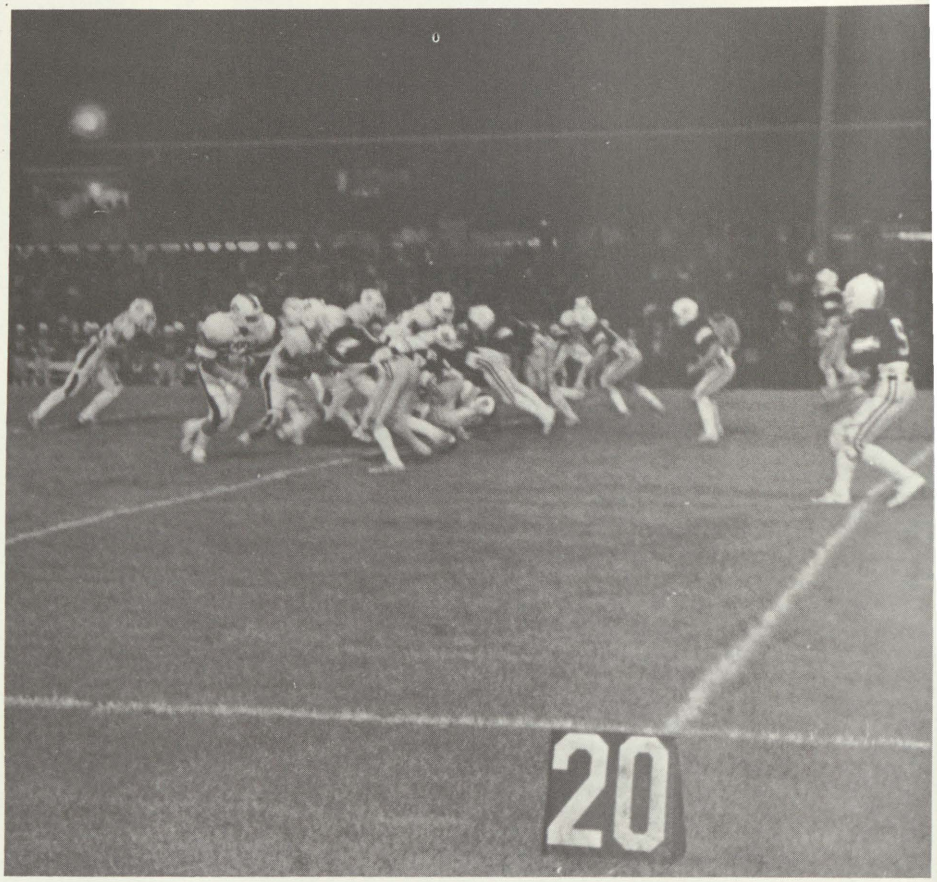




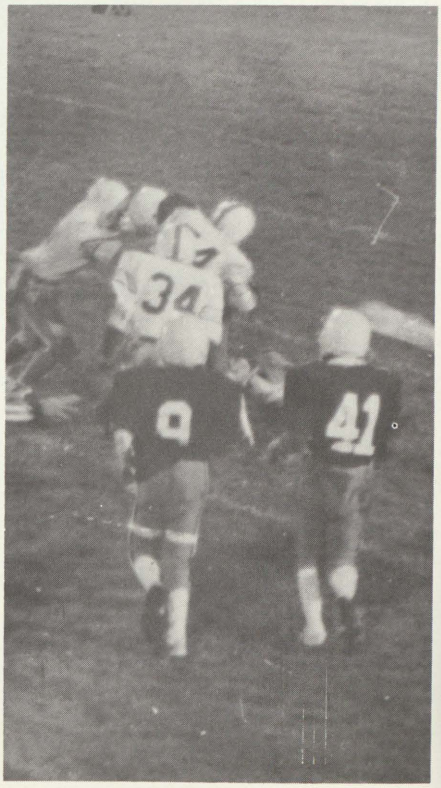
From Top to Bottom, Left to Right; Coach Peters, Coach Luplow, Assistant Coach Nole.
Brian Briggs, Cris Purcell, Archie Federspiel, John Wagner, Ben Coppens, Dan Stewart.
Jeff Smith, Greg A. Miller, Jeff Buckley, Darrin Kroll, Tim Guzinski, Bill DeBeau.
Henry Castillo, Scott Brokaw, Rodney Wagoner, Joe Jewell, Tod Weigold, Mike DeShone, Tom Duensing.
Mike Petricevic, Kevin Kipfmiller, Brian Fleming, Greg DeShone, Kirt Shields, Mark Montgomery, Tony Stewart.

J.V. Football

Coach Dave Secord and his team gave it their all this year with hard work, practice and determination. Though the win loss record was disappointing, the team members continued to strive for success throughout the season.



The team's defensive line attempts to keep the opponents from gaining yardage.



Coach Secord watches intently as his team carries out his instructions.

Cross Country

Coach Keith Popour made cross country fun for the entire team. The changing Michigan weather during the Cross-Country season didn't affect the dedicated Merrill Cross Country runners. Denny Kalahar and Dennis Hogan both had outstanding seasons.

Though only consisting of three girls and seven boys, each team member gave his or her best effort which resulted in three conference medals being brought home.

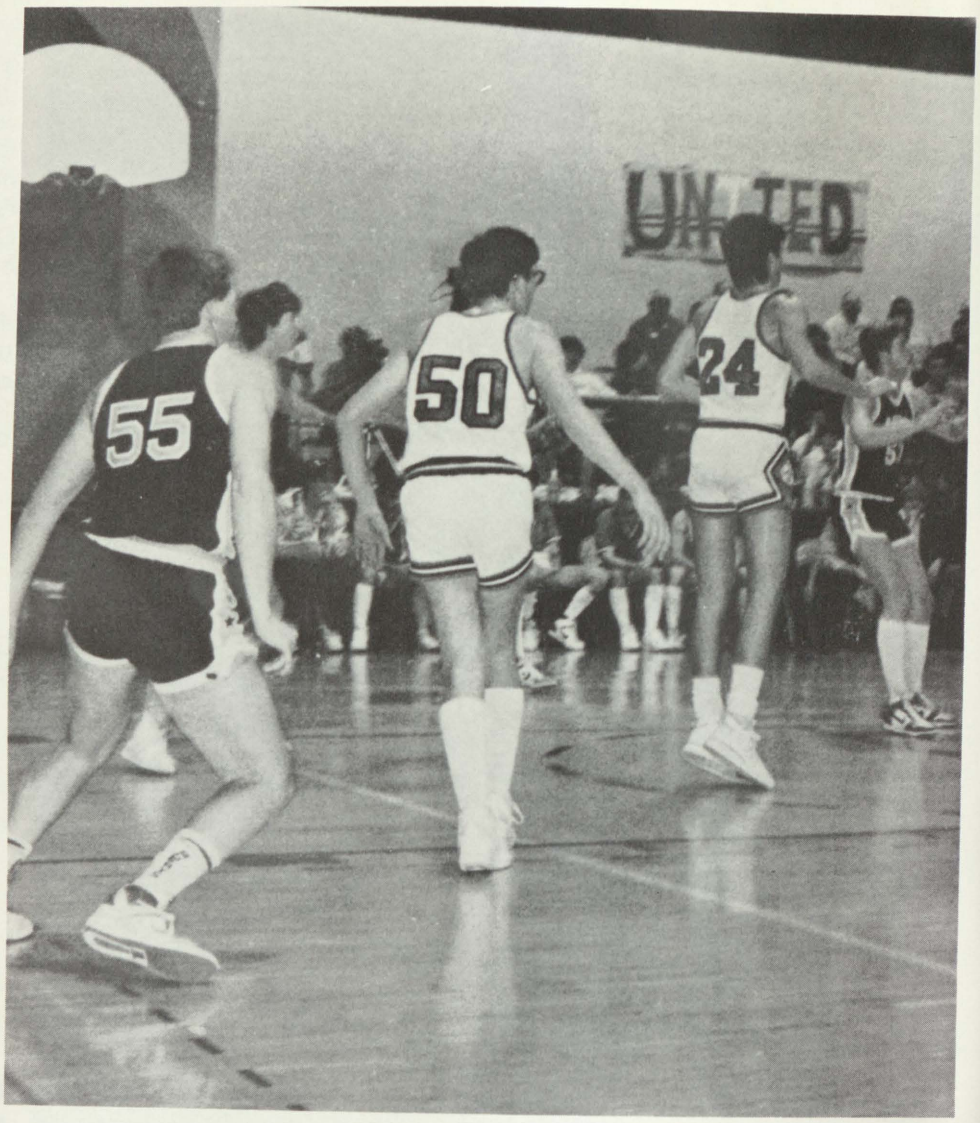
Dennis Kalahar keeps up a good stride.

Gwen Good is a few steps ahead of her opponent. Keep going Gwen!

Back Row: (Left to Right) Bret Gutknecht, Manuel Brown, Paul Hogan, Dennis Kalahar, Dennis Hogan, David Hyatt, Coach Popour. Front Row: (L. to R.) Traci Petricevic (assistant), Jodie Boyd, Nicole Gutknecht, Gwen Good.

Varsity Basketball

The win-loss record, of 7-13 may not be what the boys varsity basketball team members had hoped it would be, but Denny Kalahar's record of scoring 1000 points in his high school career is certainly one that Merrill can note with pride. Co-captains for the 1986-87 year were Matt Mikusko and Denny Kalahar. The leading rebounder for the season was Brian Briggs. Denny Kalahar was also named the leading scorer and is All Conference for 1986-87.



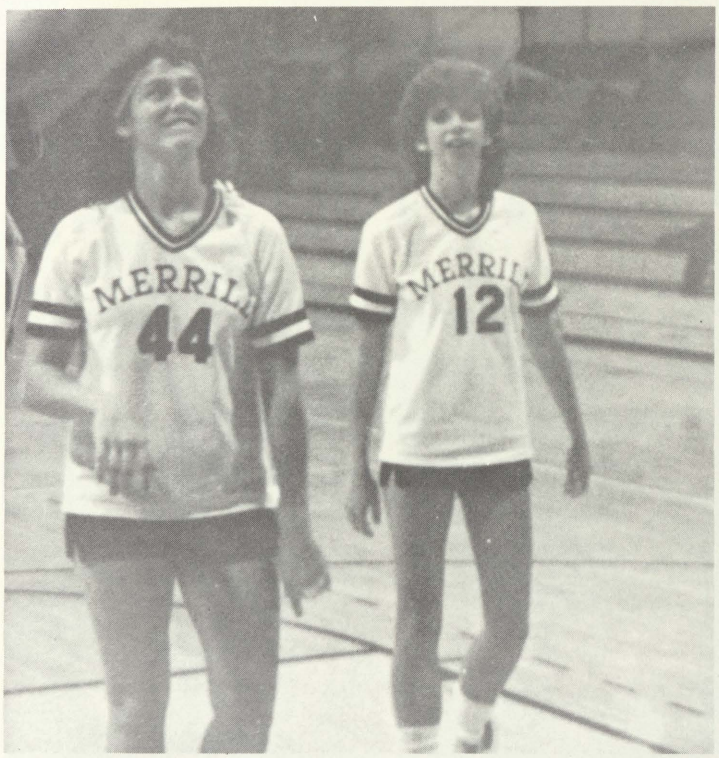
Back Row (Left to Right): Coach Krach, Scott DuRussel, Brian Fleming, Matt Mikusko, Jeff Buckley, Bill DeBeau, Dennis Kalahar. Front Row (L. to R.): Tim Guzinski, Brian Briggs, Scott Clark, Tim Naessens, Ben Coppens, Greg Garno.

Girls' J.V. Basketball

Miss Sarah Nelson did a great job as a first year coach for the Girls Junior Varsity Basketball team. Practice and hard work resulted in a 12-8 win-loss record. A mid-season pizza party with a rousing volleyball game proved to be a good diversion from the team's total immersion in basketball.

Back row: (Left to Right) Julie Siler, Maureen Michael, Valerie DuRussel, Lisa White, Luann Kennedy, Maureen Miller, Cheryl Hockemeyer, Lori Kennedy. Front Row: (Left to Right) Coach Sarah Nelson, Jennifer White, Cindy Kennedy, Michelle Miller, Trainer Jerry Van Hollan.

Girls' Varsity Basketball



Mr. Jim Darling was the new girls' basketball coach this year. Pam Koviack was chosen as the season's Most Valuable Player for Merrill High School.

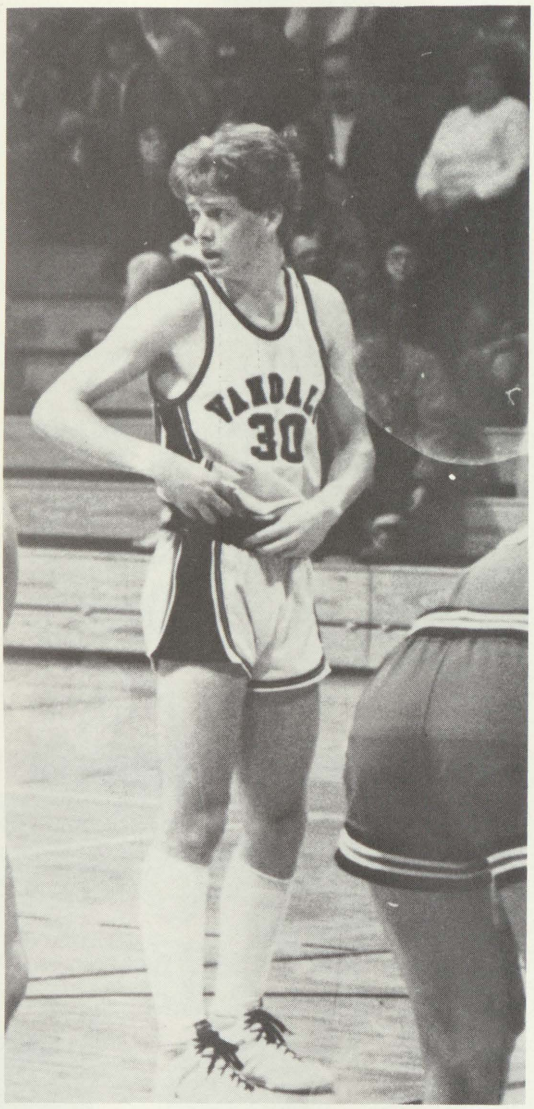
Coach Darling is working toward the goal of strengthening girls' basketball through an organized Saturday program with fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. If students learn basic fundamentals as they progress toward high school, our program will continue to grow and expand. Coach Darling believes the girls did very well and feels very positive about the upcoming season as well.

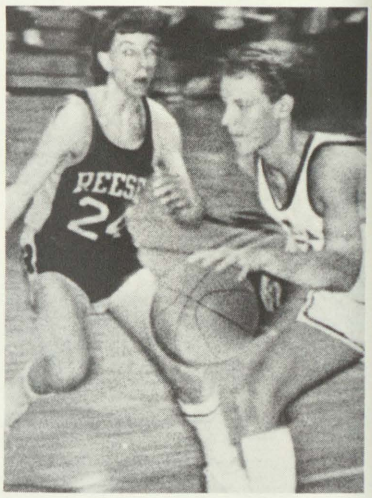
Win-loss record was 4 to 16.

Back Row (Left to Right): Deanna DuRussel, Lori Draves, Jorri Anderson, Heather Draves, Janet Minnick, coach Jim Darling. Front Row (L to R): Pam Koviack, Trisha Foy, Michelle Fleming, Jill Bigelow.

J.V. Basketball

A record of 14 wins and 6 losses is one that the Junior Varsity Boys Basketball team can be proud of. Also outstanding is their tying for second in the Conference.





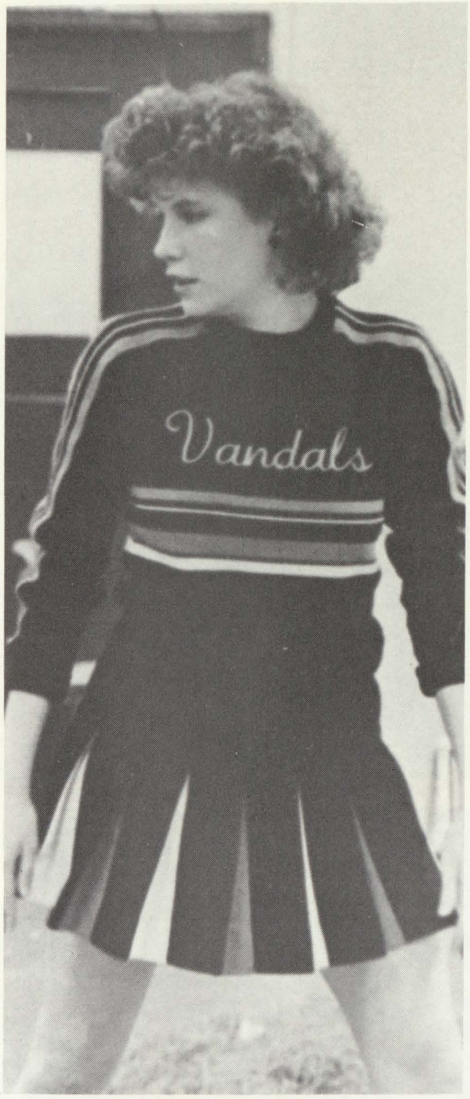
Scott Fleming checks out the court before a free-throw.

Joel Mikusko in an exciting game.

Matt Kennedy looks like he's working hard!

Back Row (Left to Right): Coach Secord, Joel Mikusko, Scott Blair, Don Thom, Matt Kennedy, Ken Coppens. Front Row (L. to R.): Scott Fleming, Mike DeShone, Mike Kackmeister, Paul Hogan, Ed Rawley.

Cheerleaders



This year the cheerleaders started the season with camp at Northwood Institute. Both the Junior Varsity and Varsity took third place in overall competition. During the year to raise money, the girls collected cans, sold cookie pies, and candy.

The squads may not have been successful at cheering their teams to victory, but their attitude and spirit made most of the games a success.

Top Left: "Oh right, you want **me** to do that?"

Top Right: 1986-87 Varsity Squad. Back row - Krista Aulbert, Lydia Duensing, Julie Kennedy. Front row - Michelle Kennedy, Stephanie Siler, Lisa Foy.

Middle: Stephanie Siler tries to smile for the camera as she stretches before the game.

Bottom Left: Back row - Amy Alvis, Marlene Miller, Amy Pettigrove. Front row - Jodie Siler, Angie Guzinski.

Girls' Volleyball

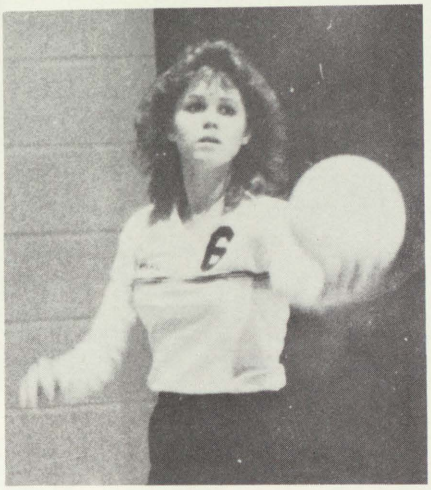
The Merrill High School Volleyball Team ended the season with an 11 to 18 win-loss record. Lisa Hale was named All League and Most Valuable Player. Lori Draves and Pam Koviack received Honorable Mentions.

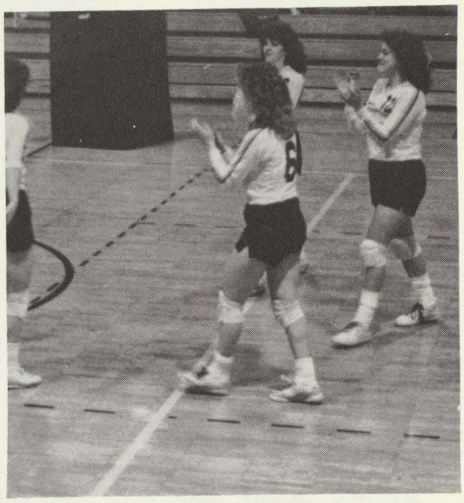
Rachel Michael controlled the offense by setting the ball all season. She led the team in total points scored for her senior season.

This was a "building year" for the Junior Varsity Volleyball team. With ten new members, the team was still able to post a four win, eight loss season. Each game was a learning experience for the team and it is certain that future seasons will benefit from this year's practice and hard work.

Back Row (Left to Right): Coach Delynn Wenzel, Ann Keel, Deanna DuRussel, Lori Draves, Heather Draves, Lisa Hale, Julie Lauckner, Assistant Coach Chris DuRussel. Front Row (L. to R.): Trisha Foy, Pam Koviack, Jodie Boyd, Rachel Michael, Lisa Siler, Carrie Siler.

Back Row (Left to Right): Amy Willman, Traica Brown, Cheri Mallek, Tammi Woodard, Traci Petricevic, Mary Lou Volz, Lesly Hale, Michelle Lednicky, Coach Sarah Nelson. Front Row (L.I to R.): Amy Hodges, Lori Knapp, Maureen Michael, Dana Witt, Emily Hayes, Christie Nieman.





Top Right - Nice shot from number six, Jodie Boyd.

Top Left - Up, up, and away!

Bottom Left - Coach Sarah Nelson reviews the last minute details.

Middle Right - What team spirit!

Middle Left - Jodie Boyd concentrates during the serve.

Boys Varsity Baseball

The Varsity Baseball team had an outstanding 1987 season with 22 wins and 6 losses.

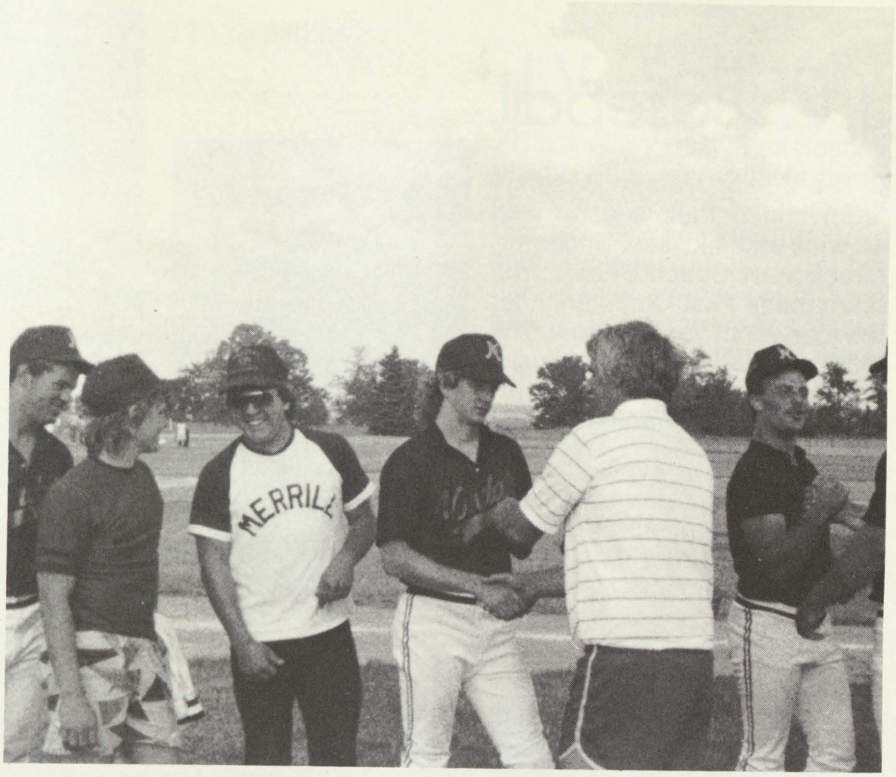
Hard work and team effort paid off under the leadership of coaches Pat Briggs and Dave DeBeau with Merrill's team making both League and District Champions.

Named All League are players; Bill DeBeau, Scott DuRussel, Scott Brokaw and Mike Petricevic.

All District players are Scott DuRussell, Scott Brokaw and Mike Petricevic.

Top, Back Row: Coach Pat Briggs, Brian Fleming, Mike Petricevic, Chris Dominowski, Tom Duensing, Greg Garno, Tim Naessens, Ben Coppens, Brian Briggs, Matt Mikusko, Joel Mikusko (J.V.), Assistant Coach Dave Debeau. Front Row: Jeff Buckley (J.V.), Mark Montgomery, Tony Stewart, Scott Brokaw, Tod Weigold, Bill Debeau, Rodney Wagner, Greg Miller..

Bottom: Coach Briggs observes his player sliding into the base.



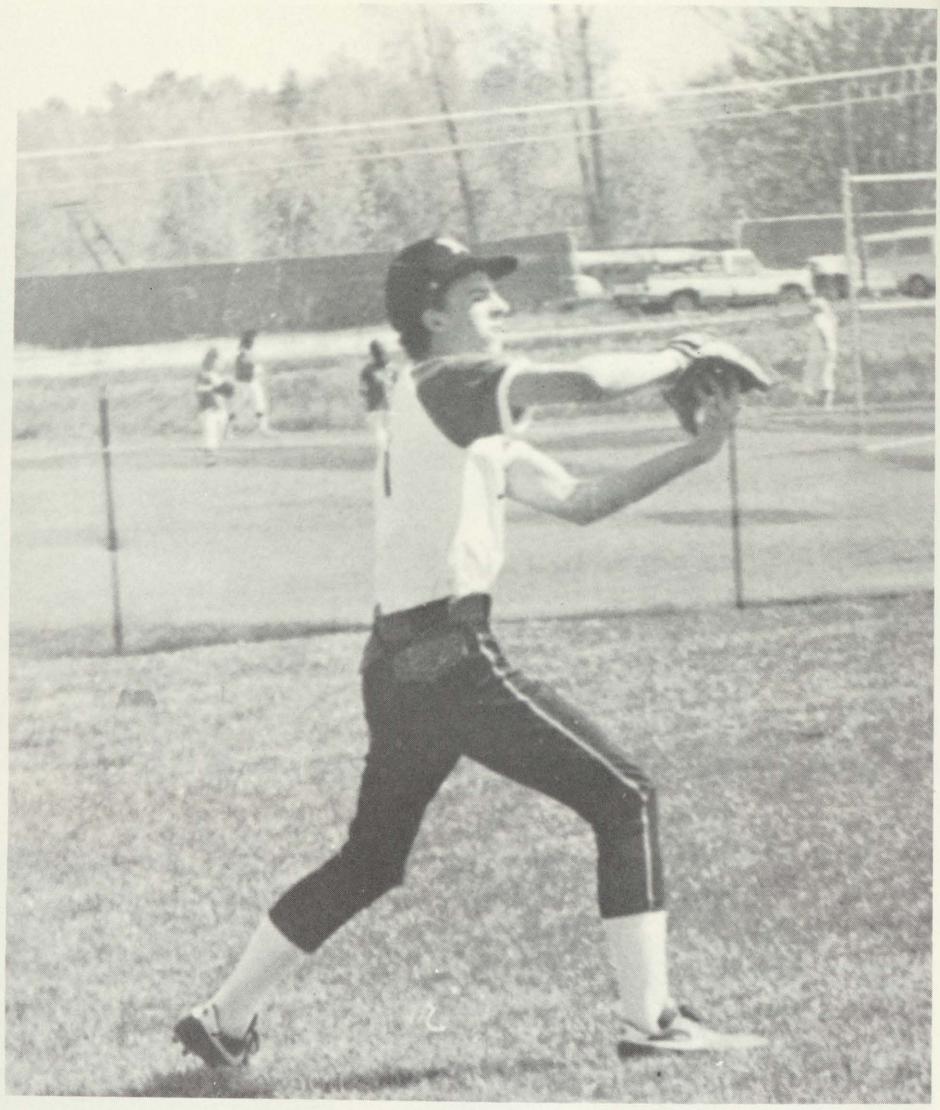
Top Left: Bill Debeau is getting important advice.

Top Right: Brian Fleming receives good wishes while Tom Duensing, Dan Stewart, Greg Miller and Mark Montgomery joke with their friends.

Left: Team members gather.

J.V. Baseball

The Junior Varsity Baseball team ended their season with 16 wins and 4 losses. Under the direction of Coach Secord, the team made First Conference for the fourteenth year in a row. The leading hitter was Joel Mikusko with a 5-1 record. Scott Flemming was leading pitcher with a record of 6-1.



Jeff Clark is winding up to deliver a winning throw.

Back Row (Left to Right): Coach Dave Secord, Scott Blair, Tom Siler, Aron Radosa, Brad Hedrich, Joel Mikusko, Craig Nohel, Mark Searles, Greg A. Miller, Dan Stewart. Front Row (L to R): Dan Pesce, Jeff Clark, Scott Fleming, Ed Rowley, Ken Filker, Jeff Buckley, Jeff Barber.

J.V. Softball

The Junior Varsity Girls Softball team had an outstanding season with a 13-4 win-loss record. In the league their standing was 10-0. None of the fine league teams could beat Merrill High School. Any losses in the regular seasons came only against Class A or B larger schools, even there, the team had many victories.

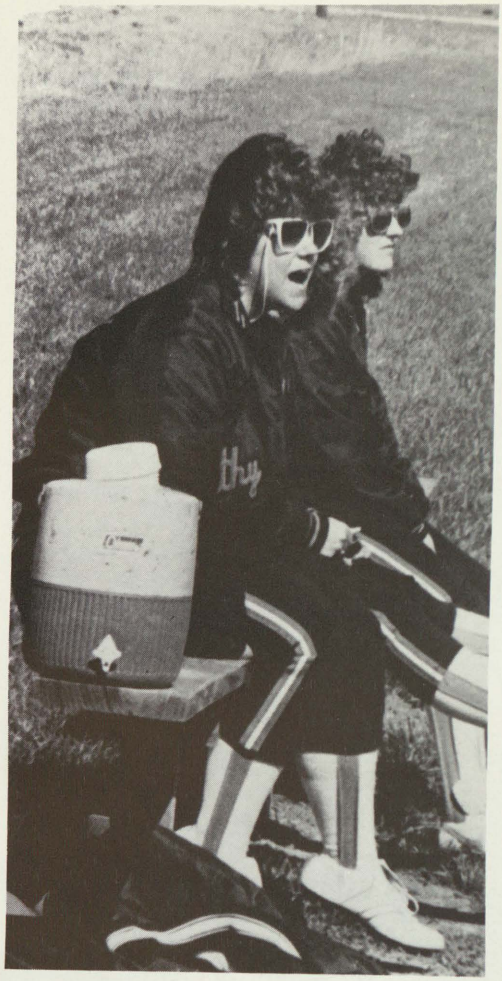
Coach Dave Kennedy felt the team was outstanding as a whole. Each member made strong contributions to this singularly victorious season.

Top (Right): Julie Lauckner ponders a controversial play.

Bottom (Right): Amy Alvis and Valerie DuRussel listen intently to Coach Leo Fleming.

Top (Left): Lisa Siler exhibits her fine pitching style.

Back to Front, Bottom (Left): Jennifer Hall, Lisa White, Traci Petricevic, Angie Guzinski, Amy Alvis, Lesly Hale, Michelle Miller, Lori Kennedy, Coach Leo Fleming, Stephanie Stefanski, Jodie Siler, Julie Siler, Sue Pioworski, Dana Witt, Lisa Siler, Jenny White, Julie Lauckner, Valerie DuRussel.



Top Left: Kathy Kilgore and Cindy Kennedy root their team on to victory.

Top Right: Deanna DuRussel gets ready to slug one out of the park!

Bottom Right: Jill Bigelow asks Lisa Foy, "Where is my glove?"

Merrill defense sweeps into action.

Varsity Softball

Merrill Varsity Girls' Softball had another outstanding season. Their 11 to 3 win-loss record allowed the team to fall only one game short of the conference title. This disappointment did not affect their ability to regain the district title for the second consecutive year.

The Class C District Championship began with a pre-district challenge from Breckenridge. The Merrill Vandals won, and then advanced to district play.

District games began with a Peowa defeat. This game allowed the team to advance to the championship game against the conference champions, the Shepherd Bluejays. The Vandals emerged with a big district victory.

This district title allowed the Merrill team to go to the regional games in Clare. At the end of seven innings, the scoreboard read "Merrill 9 - Edmore 2," which allowed Merrill to travel to the next phase of regionals.

In the regional championship game, the Vandals' smiles turned to tears as their 1987 season came to an abrupt end by losing to Tawas in the eighth inning.

Top Left: Leesa Locke throws a fantastic pitch.

Top Right: Pam Koviack is awaiting a play.

Middle Right: Julie Kennedy waits for a fly ball.

Bottom: Barb Daniels. Top Row: Gail Maier, Kelly Siler, Deanna DuRussel, Ranee Miller, Kathy Kilgore, Leesa Locke, Kim Graf. Bottom Row: Pam Koviack, Julie Kennedy, Jeannine Moulton, Cindy Kennedy, Becky Ellsworth, Lisa Foy, Jill Bigelow, Michelle Kennedy.

Pom Pon

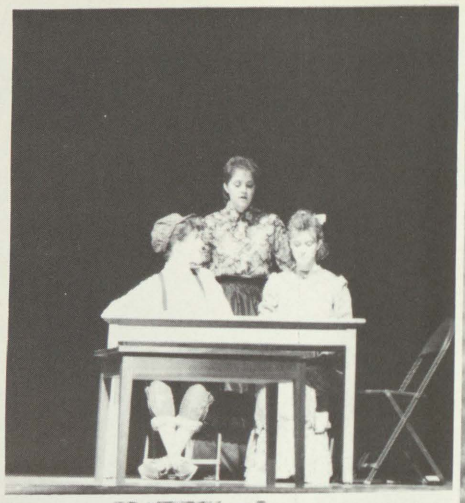
The 1986-87 Merrill High School Pom Pon had an eventful season. Members met three times a week and performed at all home basketball games and homecoming. They did some special Hawaiian and Egyptian routines, under the direction of Robin Yuchasz. Ann Searles was chosen as Most Valuable Member for her senior season.

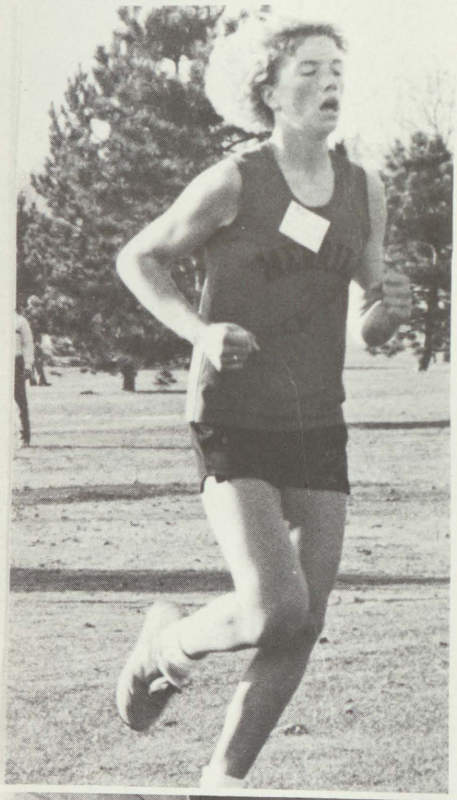
Back Row: (Left to Right) Regina Windom, Trisha Kopta, Carrie Breedlove. Middle Row: (L. to R.) Karen Schaeding, Lauri Breedlove, Jennie Vican, Ann Searles, Heather Hyatt, Amy Carlson. Front Row: (L. to R.) Heather Hodges, Jeannine Moulton, Laurie Wenzel.

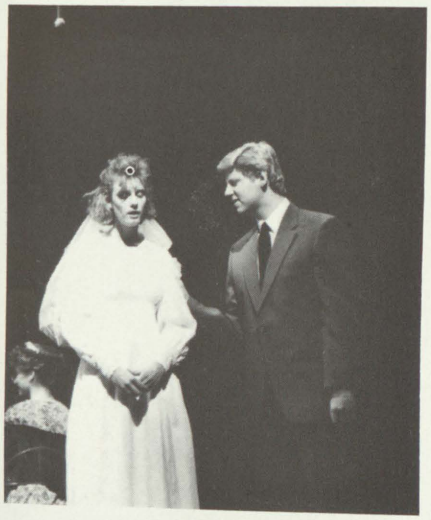
Ann Searles and Jeannine Moulton practicing one of their super routines.

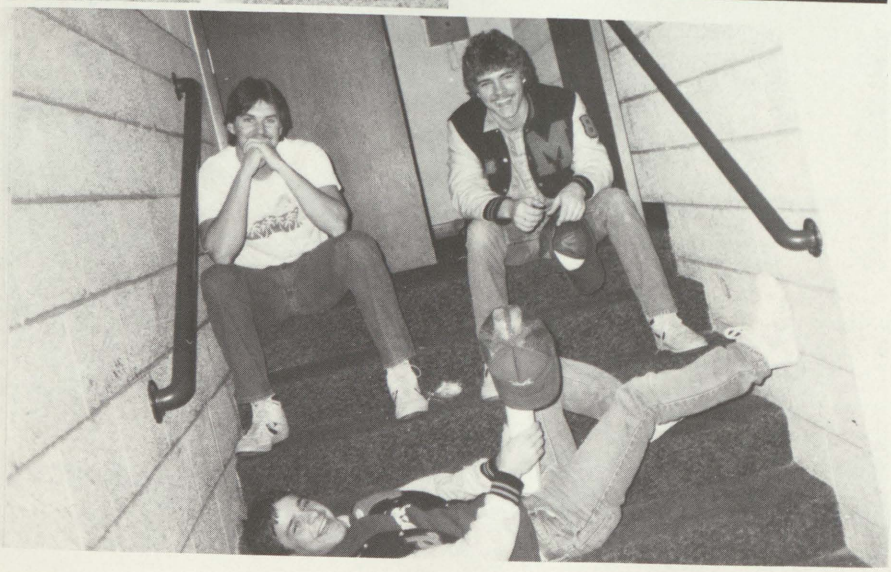
15

78
Vandals





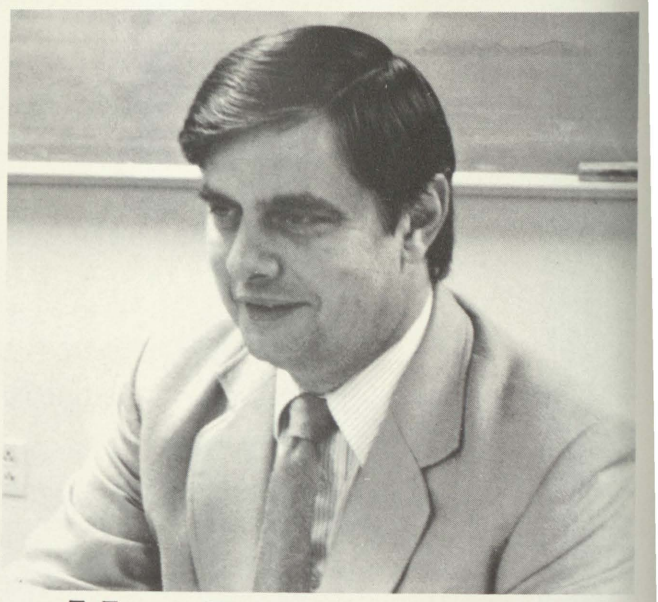




FACULTY

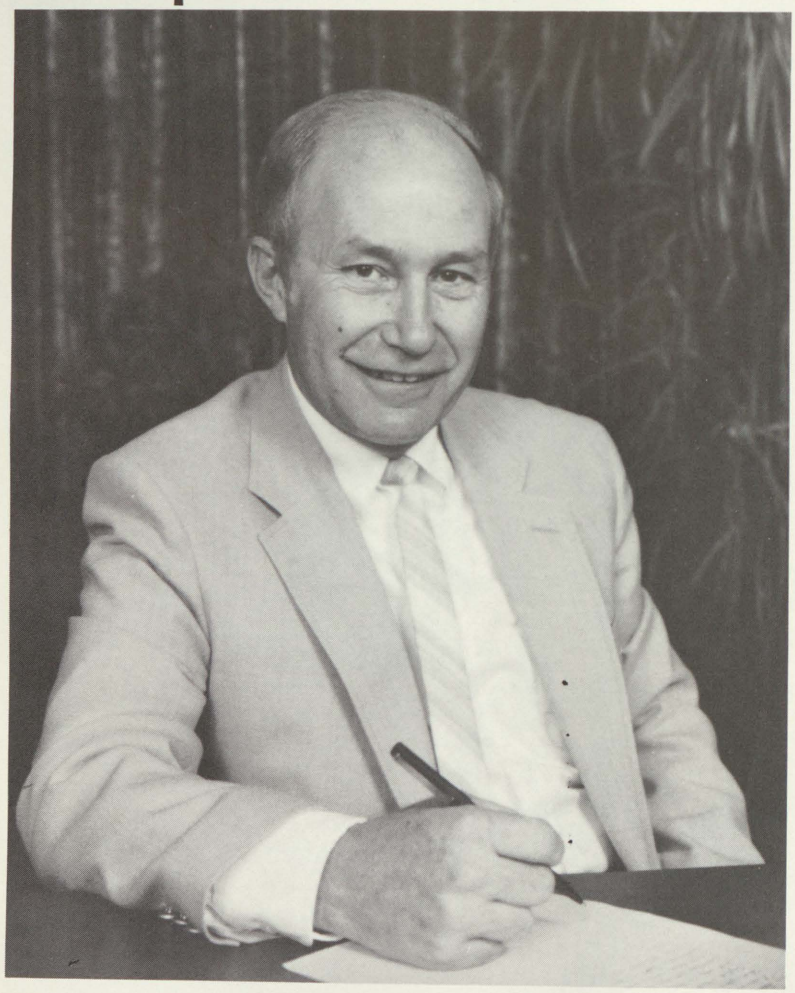
1987

Administration

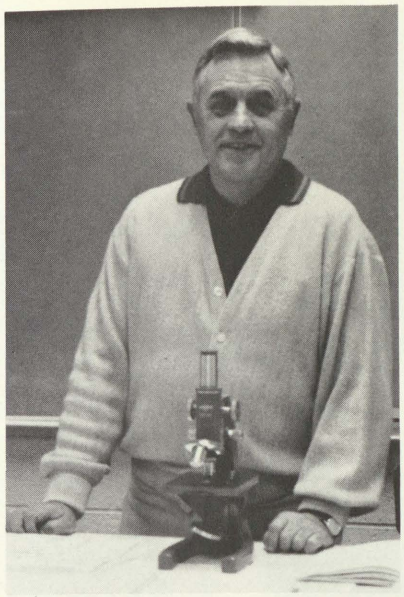


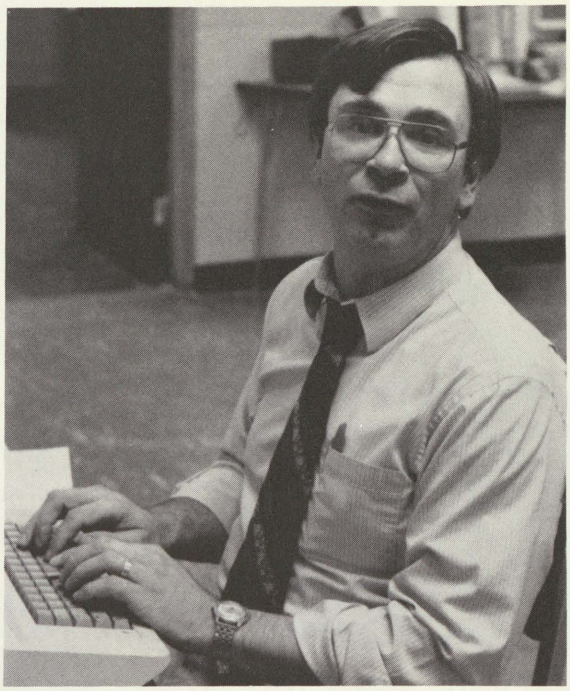
Mr. Roy Fortin
Principal

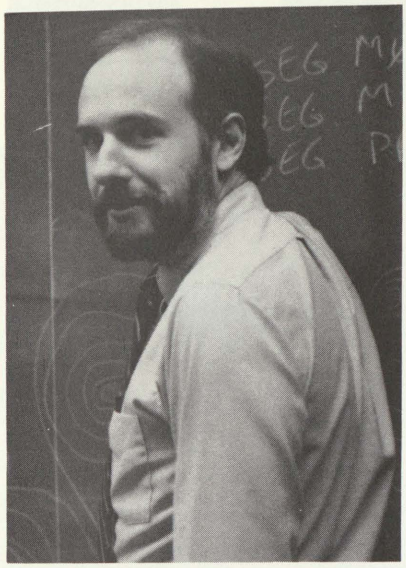
Mr. Donald Aulbert
Superintendent

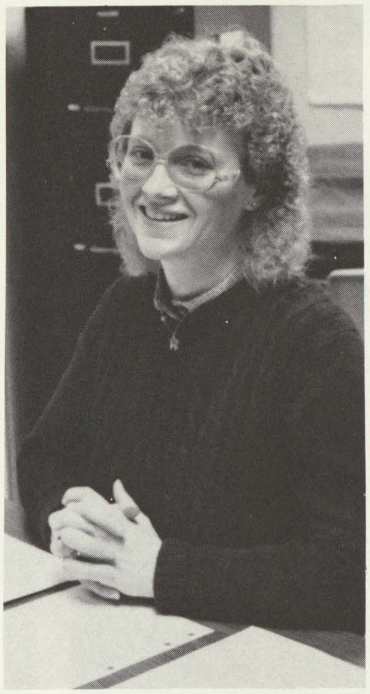


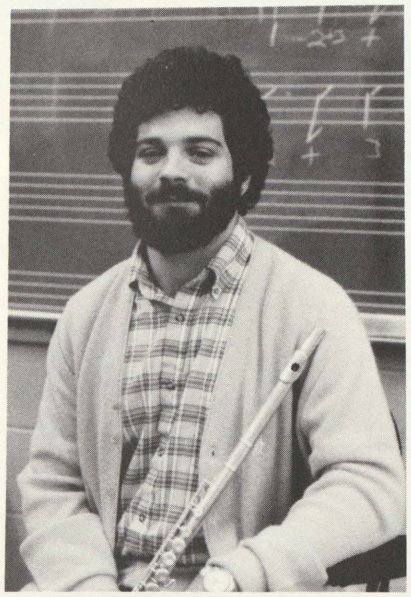
Faculty







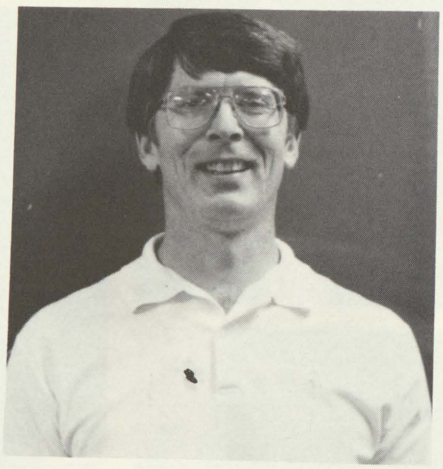


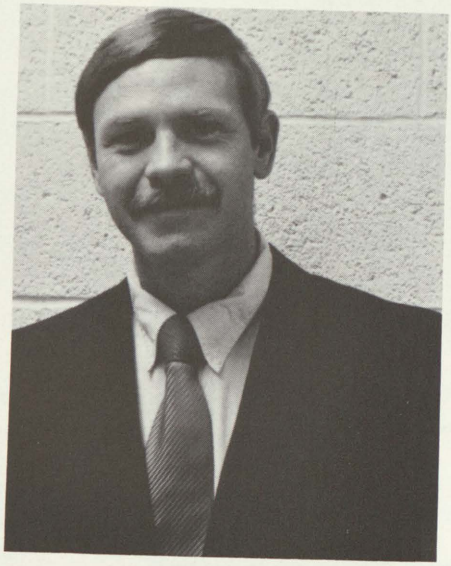


The fine faculty at Merrill High School brings experience and diverse background to provide excellence in education. Thank-you from the entire student body.

Top row: George Kasel, Janis Aiken, William Ellis. Middle Row: David Smith, Skeeter Kampmueller. Bottom Row: Tim Miller, Luana La Vasseur.

Faculty

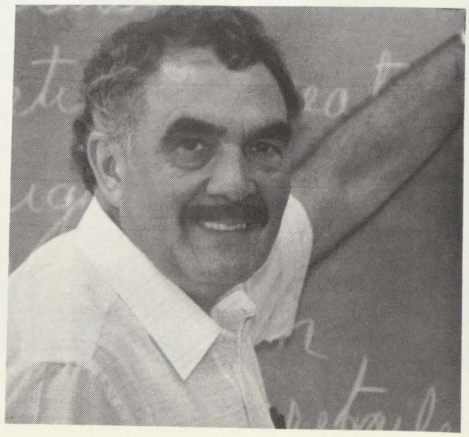


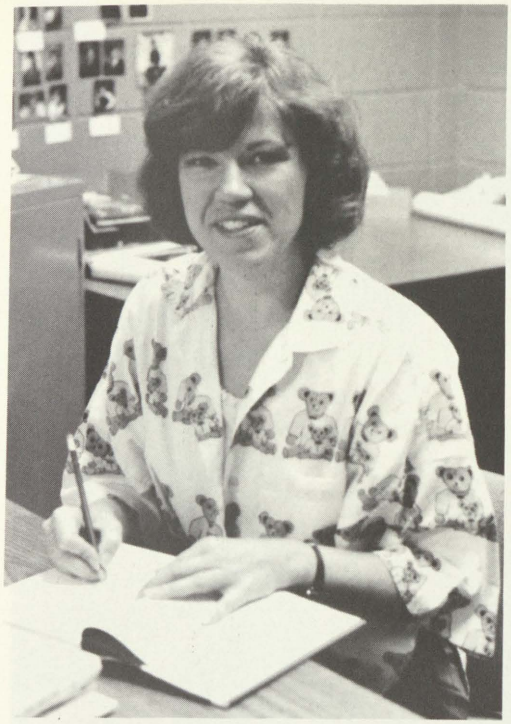


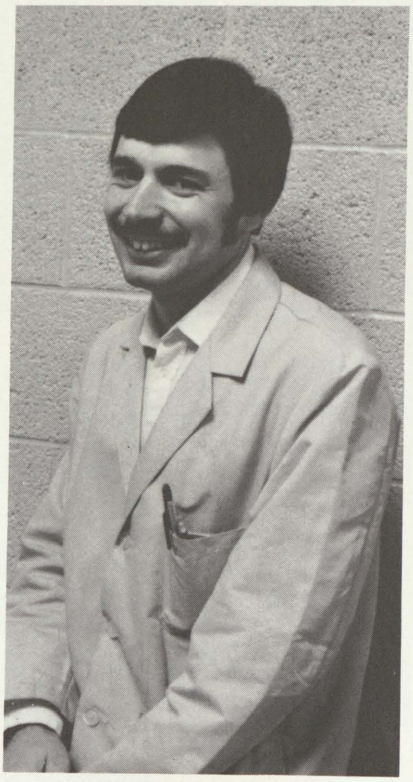
Top: Rebecca Doehring, Bernard Stelter, Rita Klemish.

Middle: Ronald Suderman, Nancy Galbraith.

Bottom: Rosemary Baker, Richard Barnes.



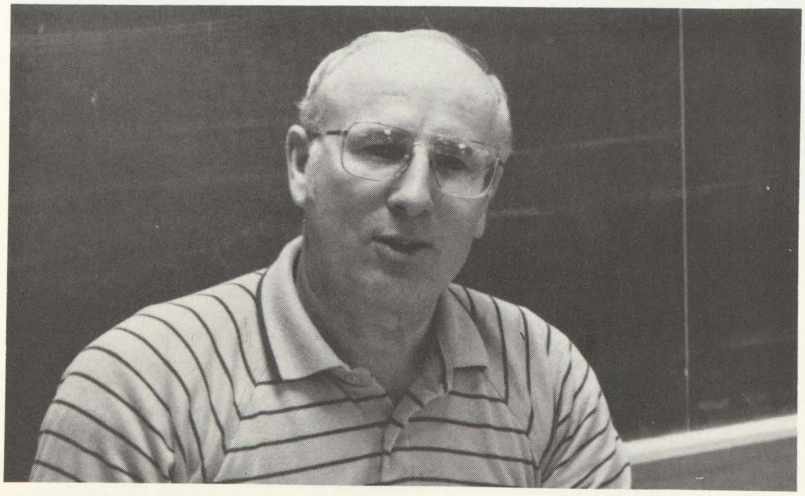




Top: Alexis Schmidt, Rosalie Buch.

Middle: Sandy Londry, Stephen Wegener.

Bottom: John Hynes, Dale Hayes.



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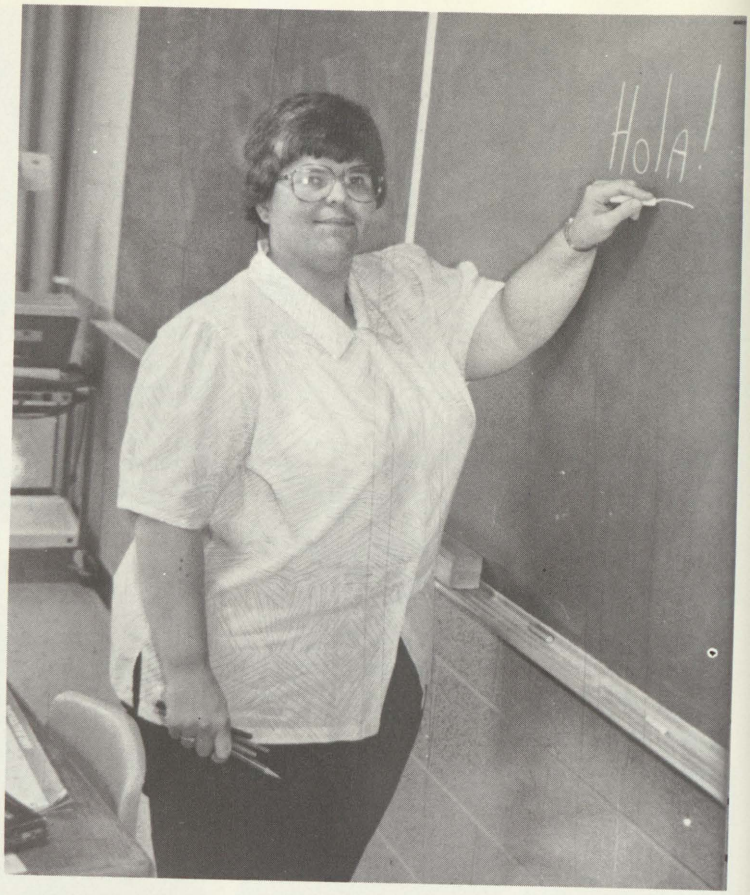
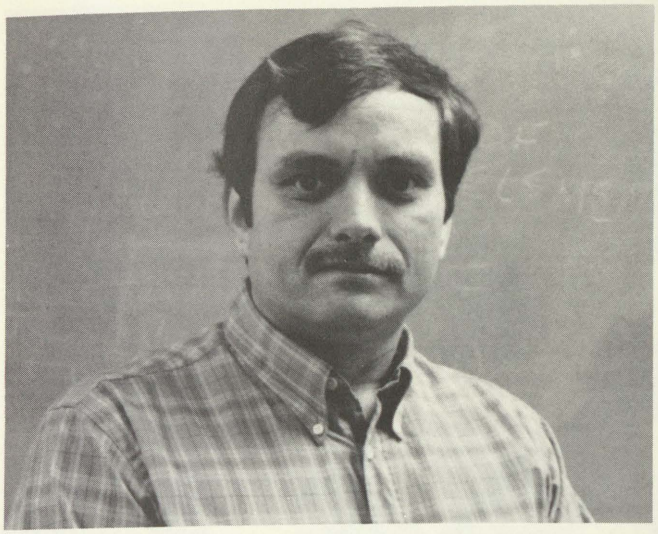


Top: Evelyn Coleman, Carole Wiegand.

Bus Transportation
Top Row: Rosemary Athey, Julie McCormick, Kathy Benjamin, Barb Strong, Sherri Yankee, Judy Poyer. Bottom Row: Evelyn Fordos, Alice Kellogg, Joan Miller, Carolyn Knapp, Marlene Shebester, Alice Gillam.



Top: Stan McMann

(Top Right) Janitors - Sandra Kruth, Jackie Sheldon, Virginia Michael.

Middle: Cooks - Irene Minto, Joyce Weigold, Shirley Kalahar, Pauline Smith, Cheryl Minto, Peggy Turner.

(Middle Right) Maintenance: Al Wood.

Bottom: David Secord.

Board of Education

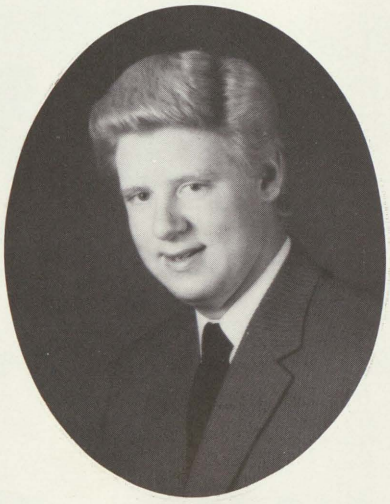
Patrick Osborne	President
Ronald Kitzmiller	Vice President
Ruth Coppens	Secretary
John Searles	Treasure
Leo Bosio	Trustee
David Kennedy	Trustee
Barbara Radosa	Trustee

SENIORS

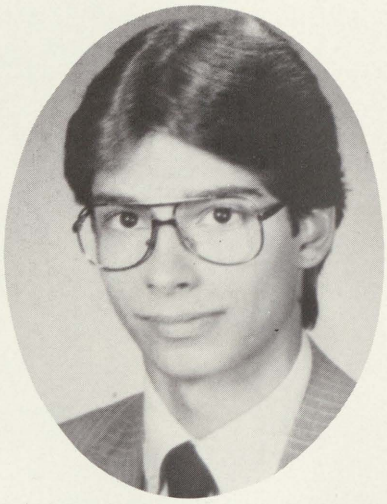
1987

TOP TEN

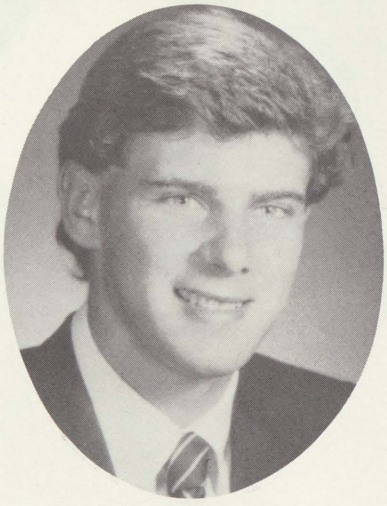
Amy Jo Locke
Valedictorian



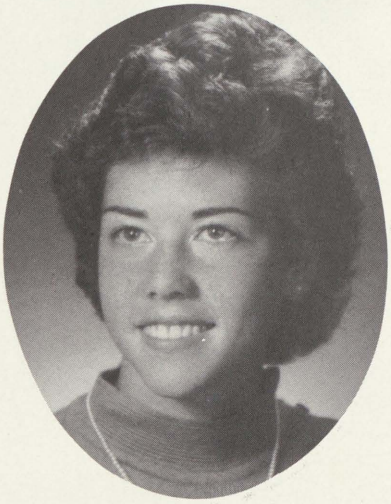
Timothy L. Ribble
Co-Salutatorian



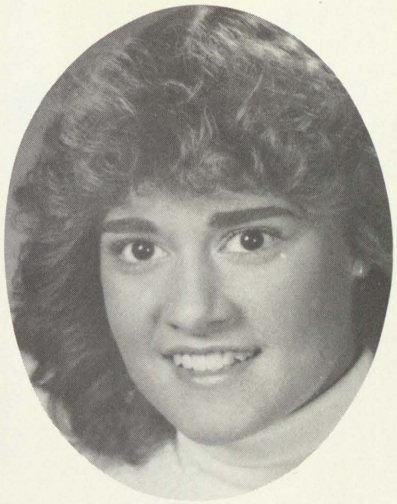
Donald L. Sherman
Co-Salutatorian



Dennis W. Hogan



Kelly Lynn Siler



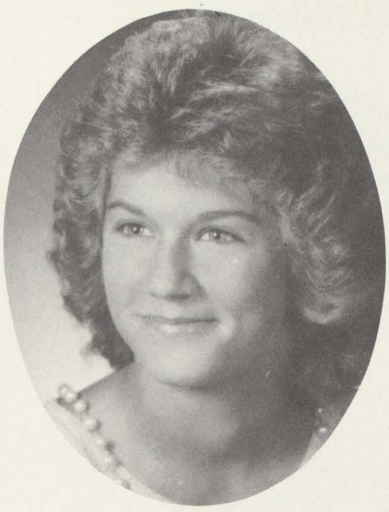
Karen June Honaman

Karin Jeanne Lacker

Julie Anne Kennedy

Ann Marie Searles

Lisa Marie Foy

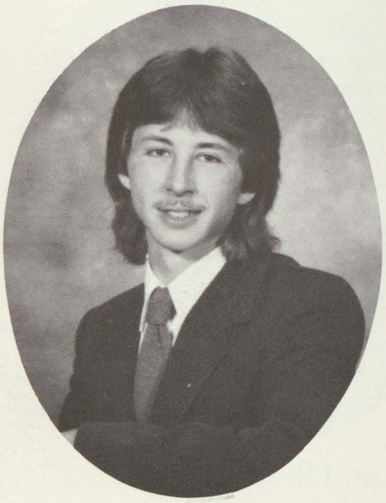


Jill Marie Bigelow

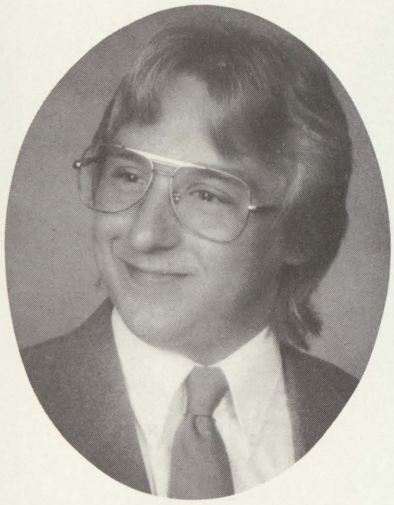
Krista Denise Aulbert

Lori Beckley

Kerri Lynn Benjamin



James Dwight Bott



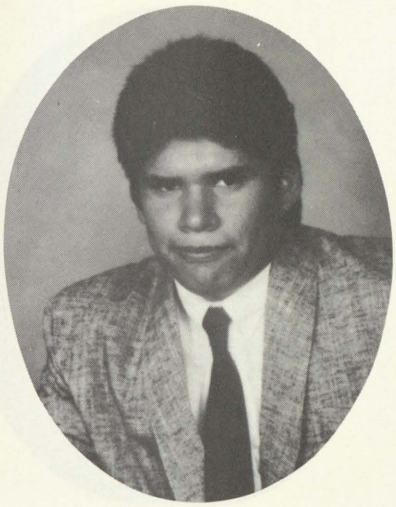
Marvin Bott, Jr.

Jodie Ann Boyd

Lauri Michelle Breedlove

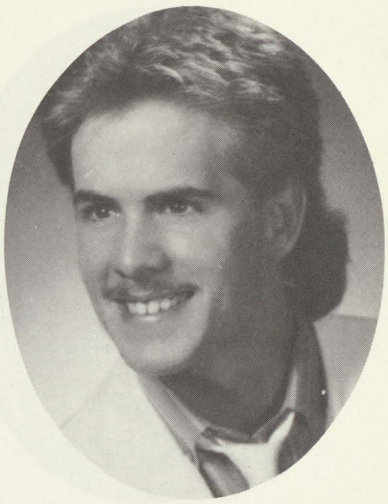
Amy Lynn Brush

Kelly Jean Burgoyne



Henry Paul Castillo, Jr.

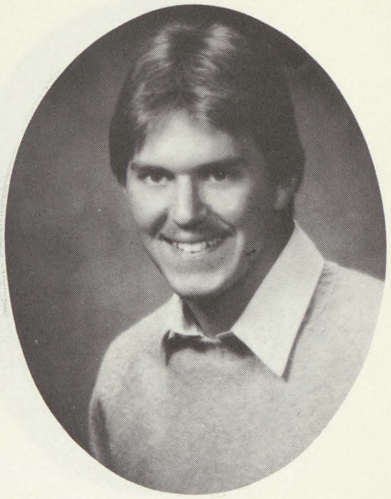
Irene F. Conklin



Bradley James Coon

Ann Marie Coppens

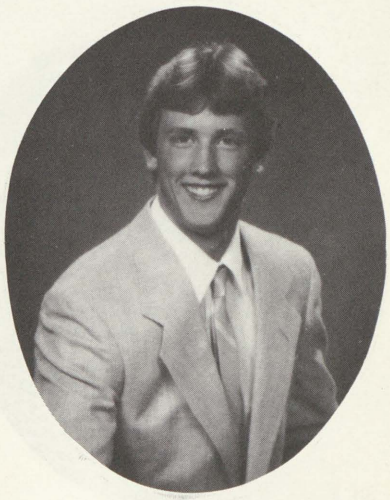
Beth Ann Corbat



Gregory D. DeShone

Tammy Marie Dickinson

Penny Alice Dittenber

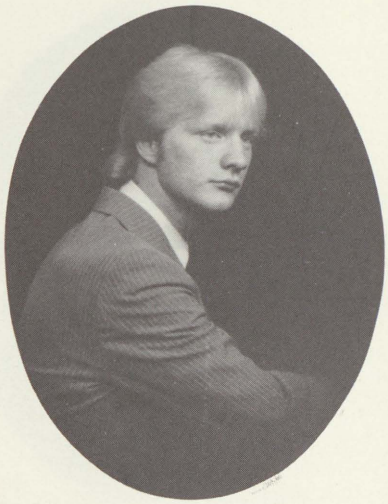


Chris P. Dominowski

Jody Lynn Dougherty

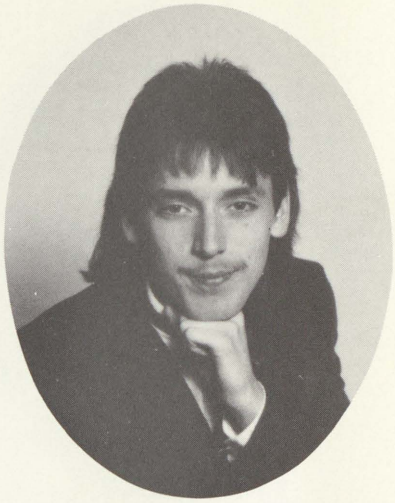
Lori Michelle Draves

Deanna Marie DuRussel

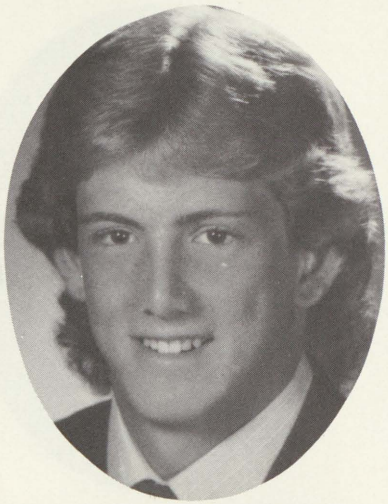


Gerald Clayton Ellis

Shannon Kay Euler

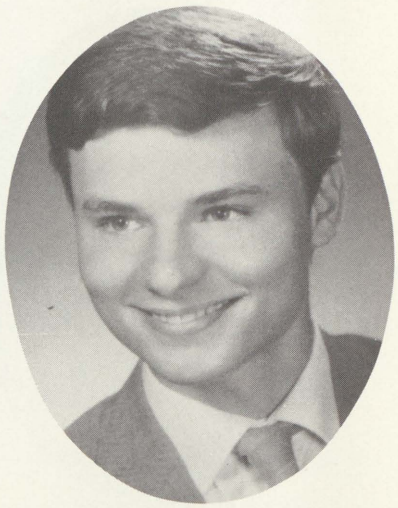


Darrell Ray Filipiak



Brian Fleming

JoAnn Ford



Gregory R. Garno

Dawn S. Gerard

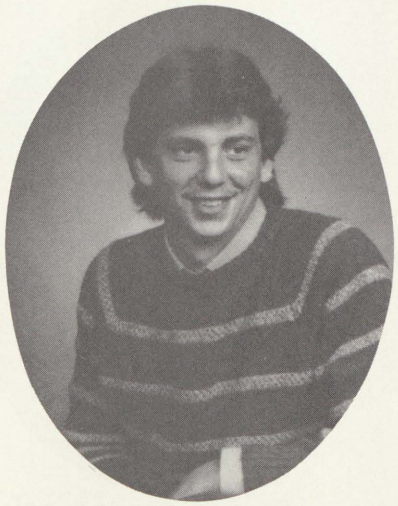
Becky May Gillam

Lisa Marie Goulette

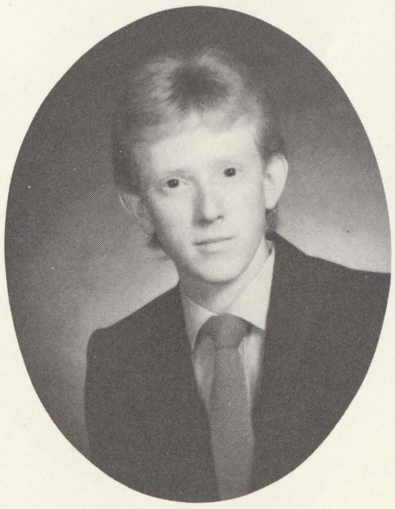
Lora M. Gulick

Susana Samaniego Gutierrez

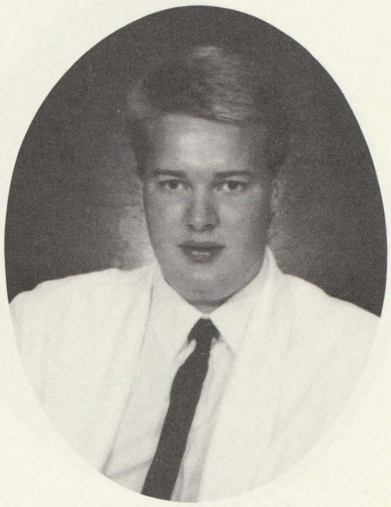
Lisa M. Hale



Harold E. Harless

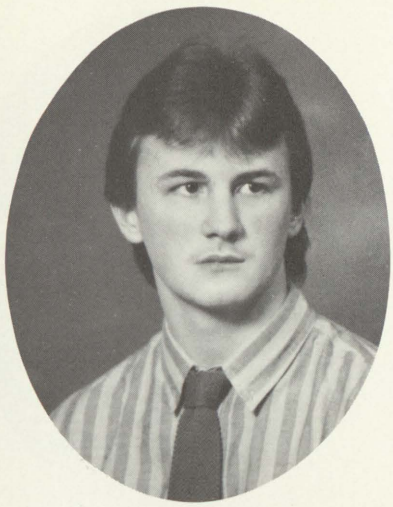


Jeffrey S. Harper



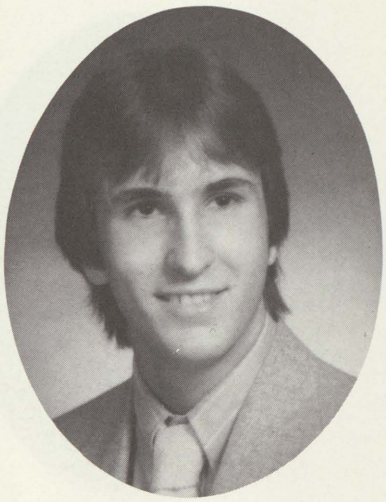
Dewight D. Hartung

Mariah Lynn Hesse



Robert Allen Hiner

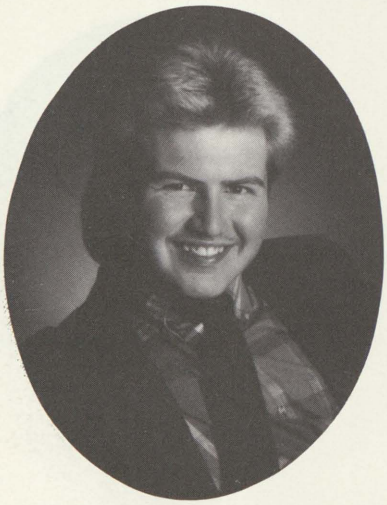
Katherine Ellen Hogan



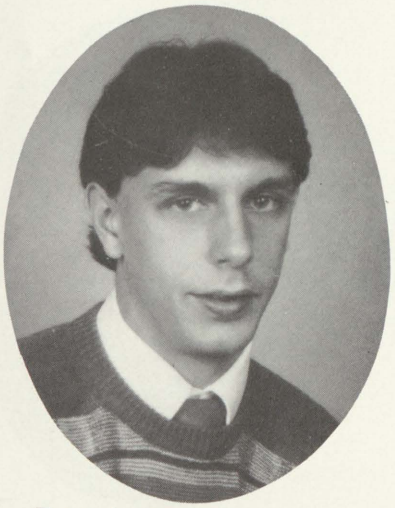
Jeffery L. Hyatt

Joseph Eliakim Jewell

Sophia Maria Jimenez

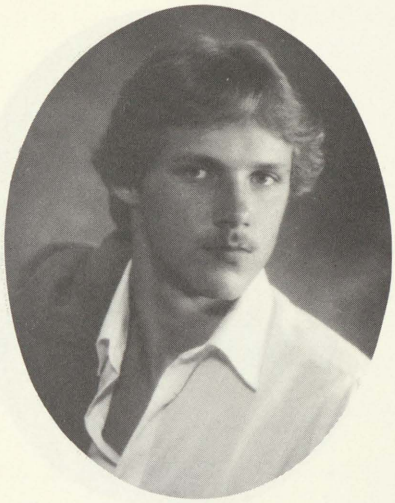


Brian Scott Kafka



Dennis R. Kalahar

Annette Marie Keel

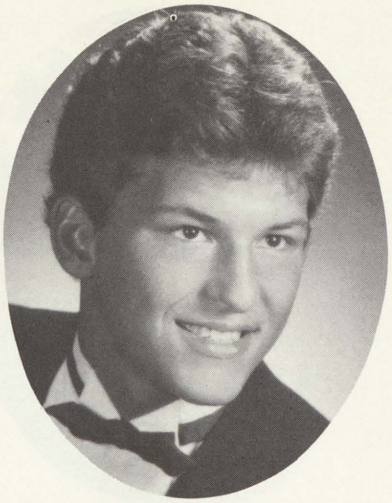


Charles R. Kehoe II

Michelle Ann Kennedy

Stephanie L. Keyes

Catherine Kay Kilgore

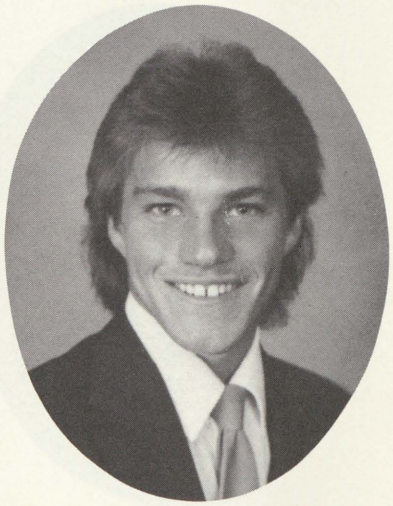


Kevin Allen Kipfmiller

Stacey C. Kocsis

Lisa Marie Kopta

Pamela Ann Koviack



Richard Earl LaFreniere

Cindy Lou Liedeke

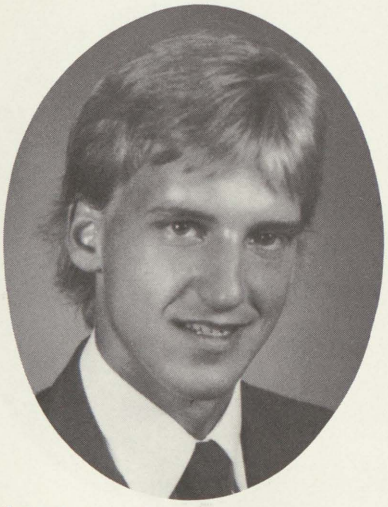
Gail Lynette Maier

Margaret I. Marshall

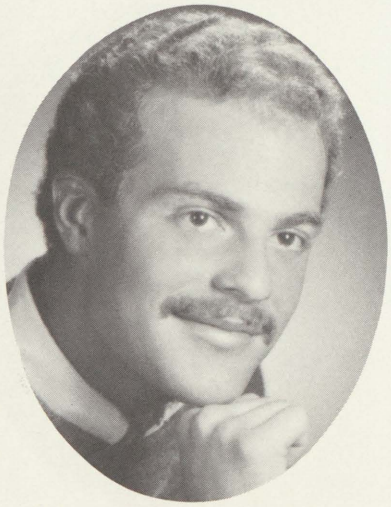
Wendy J. Massey

Gregory Allen McMahon

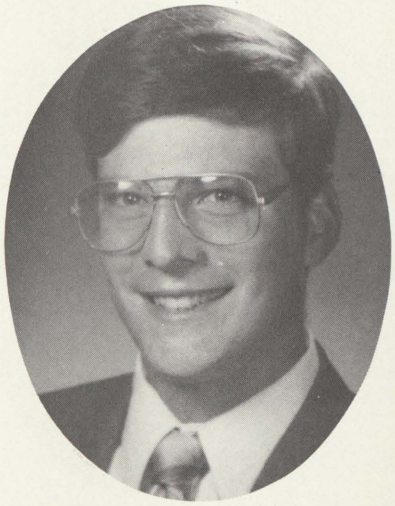
Rachel Anne Michael



Mathew George Mikusko

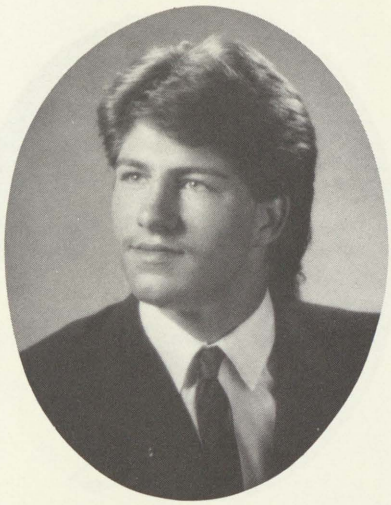


Mark A. Montgomery



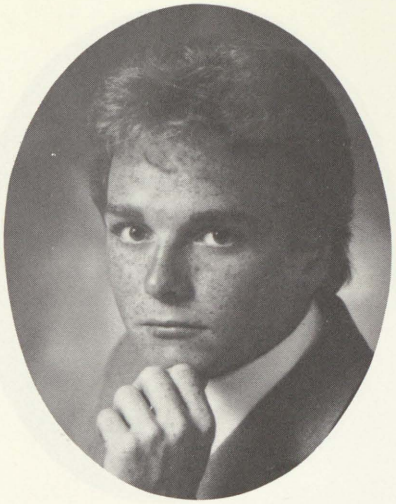
Timothy E. Naessens

Marlisa Caroline Ornelas

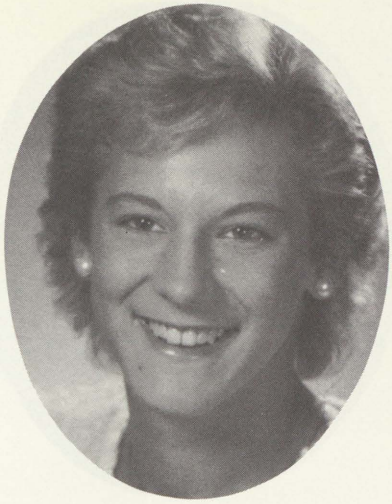


Michael G. Petricevic, Jr.

Cheryl Lynn Phillips

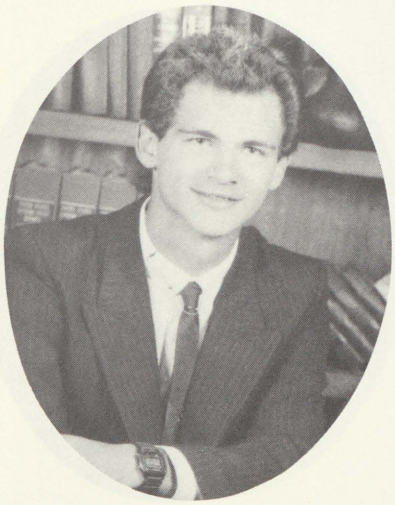


Jeffrey Allen Purcell



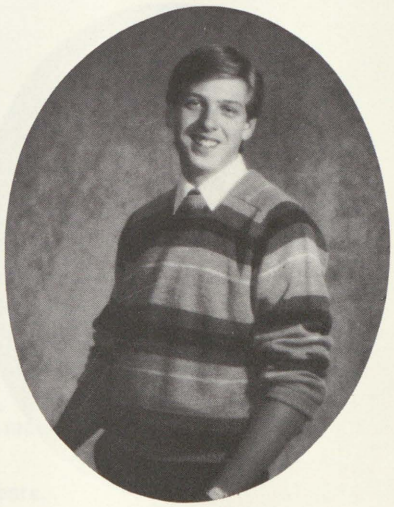
Karla Jane Radosa

Kimberly Sue Rinz

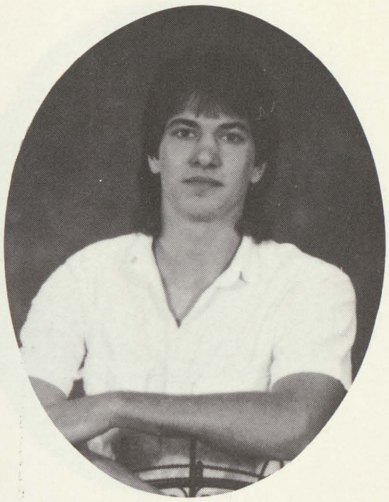


Joel G. Rowley

Karen Ann Schaeding

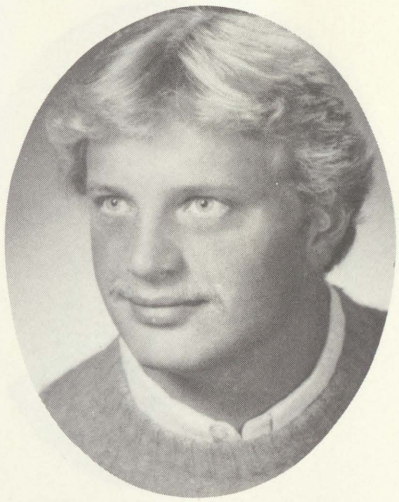


Robert C. Scherzer



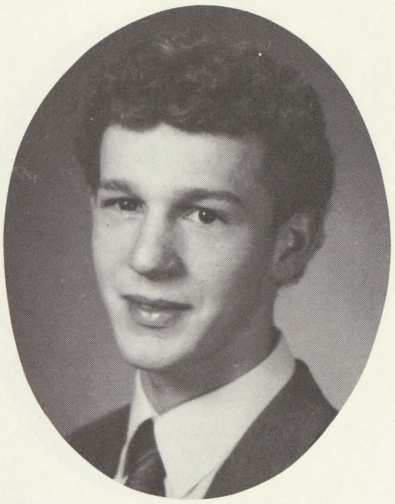
Bruce Mitchell Schoenlein

Andrew G. Sherman



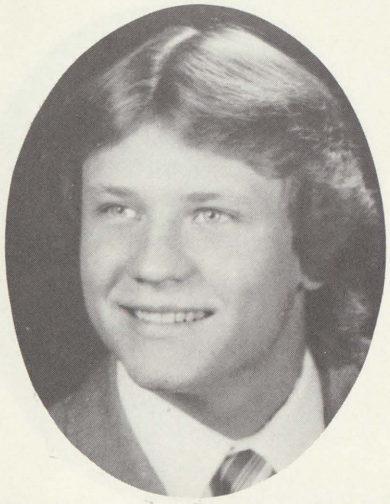
Kirt F. Shields

David R. Siler

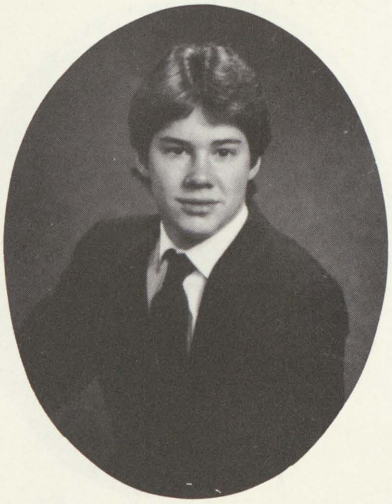


George Joseph Siler, Jr.

Kari Jo Siler



Anthony Estel Stewart

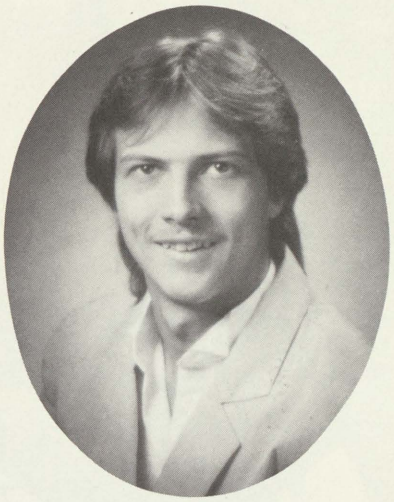


Aaron Stiner

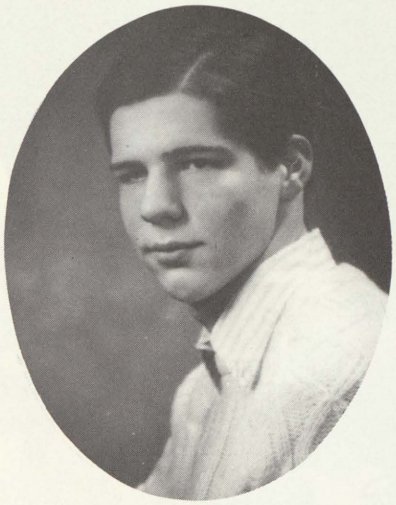
Tamara Jean Syrek

Christine L. Thom

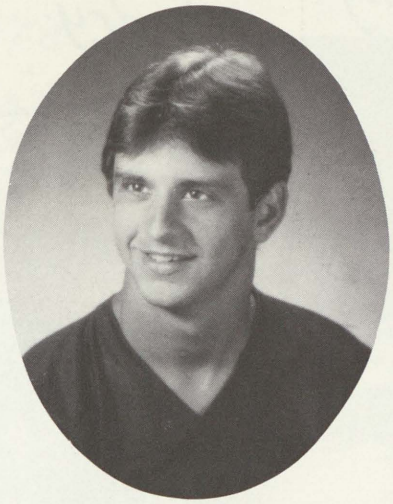
Kathryn Lillian Thomas



Denis Dewitt Turbin, Jr.



Jason VanHorn



Tod Mitchell Weigold

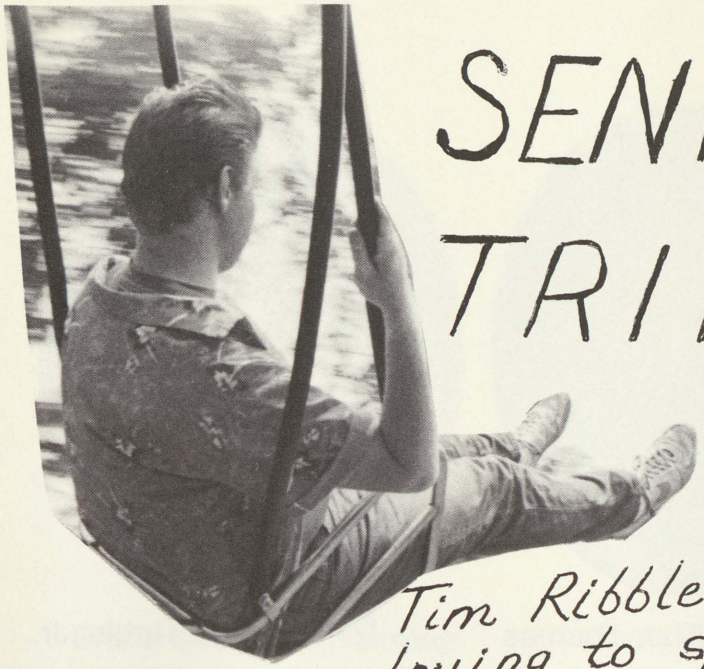
Timothy A. Wicke

David Paul Wright, Jr.

SENIORS

Single file and yet together,
We have shared our greatest days
And we carry common memories,
In a different way.
Though we don't know where we're going,
We will cherish where we've been,
As our time comes closer to an end.
Hold on to the moment
Let the feelings show
Hold on to the moment
Never let it go.
I can picture us together
My arms around my friends.
Just let me hold on to this moment before it ends.
There was laughter
There was tears
Through a dozen golden years.

SENIOR TRIP



Tim Ribble trying to spin dry.

Senior hams!

Over 60 seniors were more than willing to take a day off school to go on the first senior trip in over fifteen years.

The seniors had no problem arriving at the high school at 5:30 a.m., with most arriving early. (With the exception of Penny Dittenber, who came a half hour late).

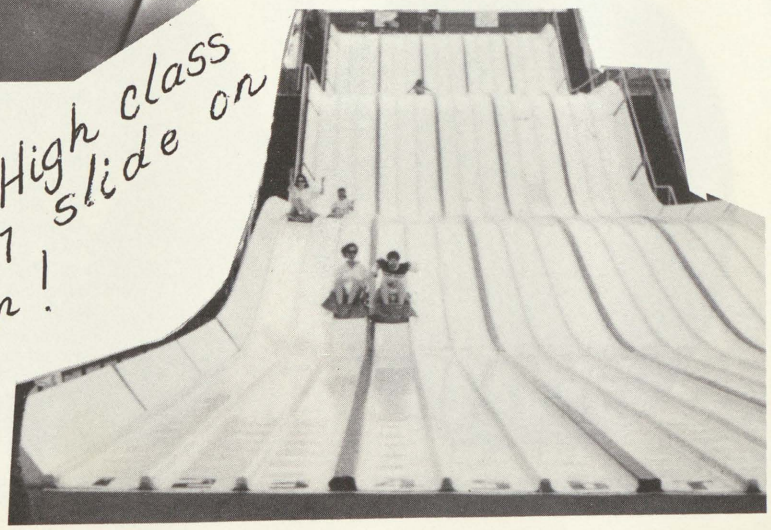
Once the seniors reached the park, they were taken in by the excitement of such rides as the Gemini, Cork Screw, and to cool the hot day off - Thunder Canyon. The seniors, curious to discover the new ride Iron Dragon, found disappointment in it.

At seven o'clock sharp the seniors piled back on the Mid-Michigan Charter buses. Lisa Hale and Jodie Boyd were the last on due to the fun they were having riding the Demon Drop.

Though Kerri Benjamin tried to keep one bus alive, the sandman put a damper on her efforts.

On the other bus Tim Ribble and fellow gumrappers entertained with the Merrill farewell rap. As the fog thickened and the seniors came closer to the Merrrill Village limits, Mike Petricevic started a sing-a-long to the song, Never Say Goodbye, that evoked bittersweet memories and tears.

Karen Honoman tries to hide her fear.



Merrill High class of 1987 slide on down!

YES! We're ready for a wet and wild ride!

Tammy Syrek and Krista Aulbert enjoy waving to onlookers.

Several seniors enjoy one of Cedar Point's more tame rides.

Mike Petricevic and Joe Jewell smile as they think of what they will find at Cedar Point.

Graduation

On the first day of school Mr. Fortin announced that May thirty-first would be the day that we had awaited for years.

For the most part, the year flew by and the next thing we knew we were on the football field receiving our symbol for thirteen years of hard work.

Soon our principal presented us to our friends and family as the graduating class of 1987. There were tears shared, snapshots to remember the day, and final farewells to our friends.

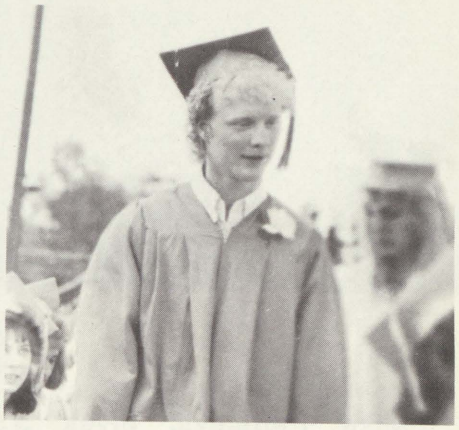
It is now time to venture out into the world and fulfill our dreams. GOOD LUCK CLASS OF 1987.

Top: The graduates take their seats.

Middle Right: Sophia Jimenez reflects on her high school career.

Bottom Right: Julie Kennedy receives an award from Superintendent Don Aulbert.

Right: Lauri Breedlove evokes tears as she dedicates Whitney Houston's "Greatest Love of All" to her fellow classmates.

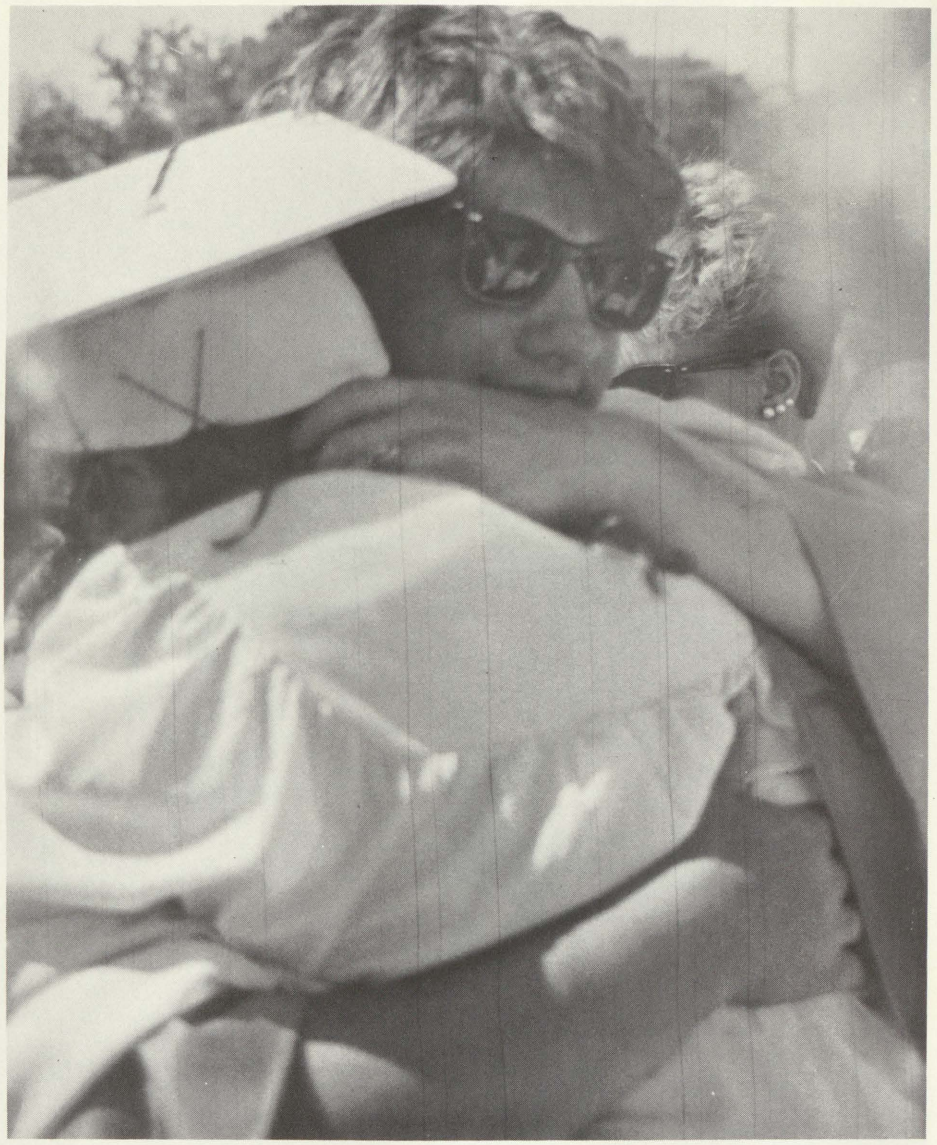


Dennis Hogan and Rob Hiner battle the wind while listening to the graduation ceremony.

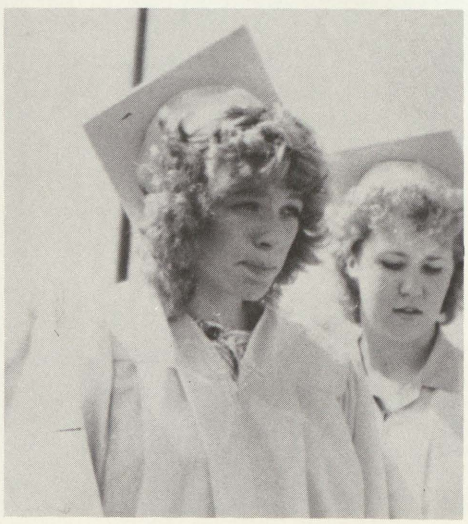
Marvin Bott, Jodie Boyd, Lauri Breedlove and Amy Bruch applaud one of the speakers.

Amy Locke gives her valedictory address to classmates, families and friends.

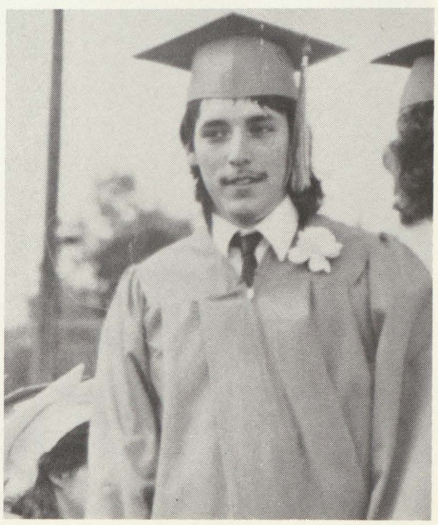
Gerald Ellis is pleased to be "on his way."



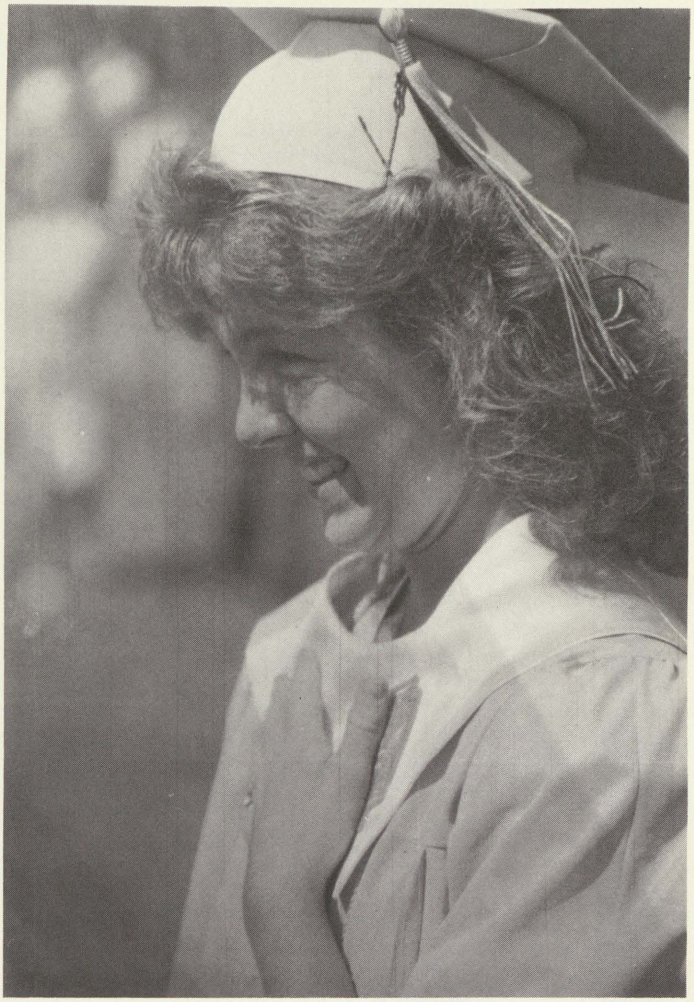
Mike Petricevic gives a classmate a final farewell hug for all the good times shared at Merrill High School.

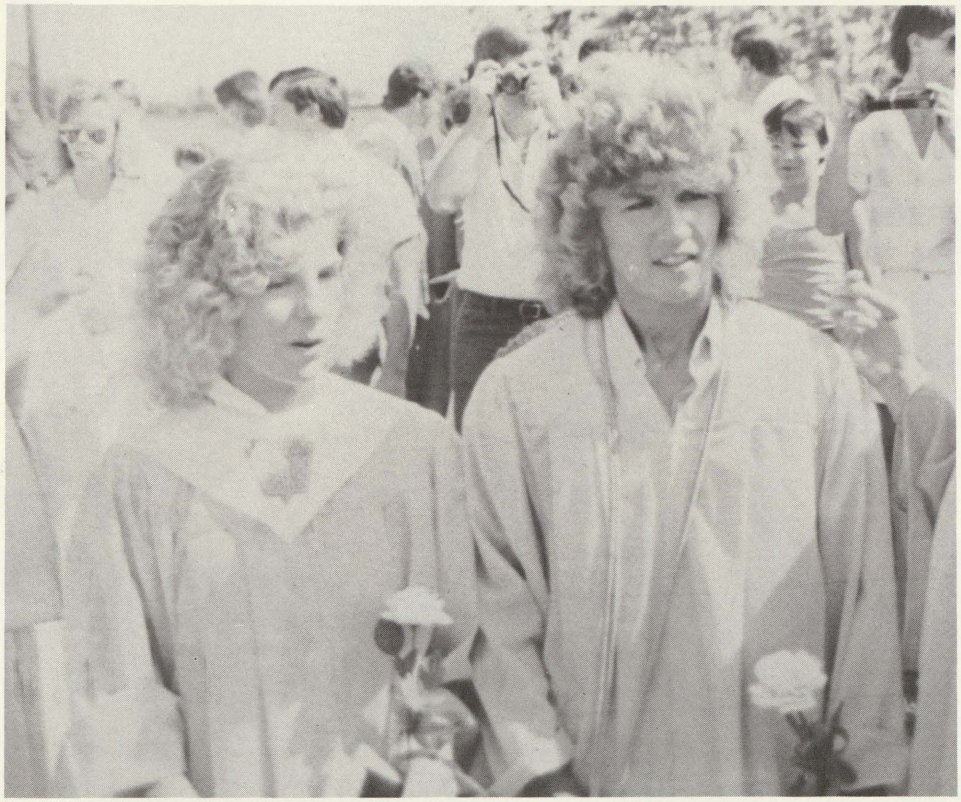


Lisa Goulette and Lora Gulick look introspective as they approach their final moments as Merrill High School seniors.



Darrell Filipiak walks toward the stage to receive his long awaited diploma.





Lora Gulick, Susan Guttierrez, and Lisa Hale wait their turn in line with looks of mixed emotion.

Katie Hogan and Tammy Syrek share a moment after graduation.

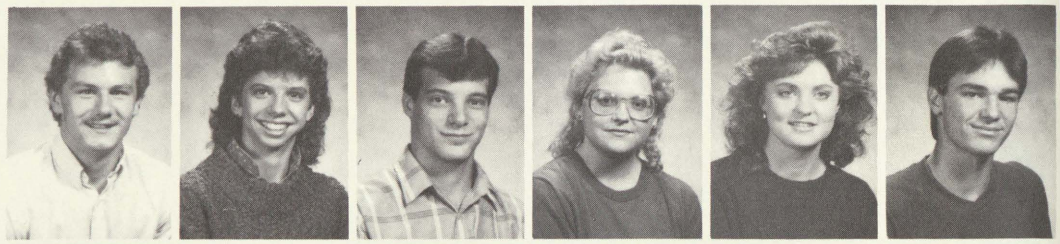
Michelle Kennedy and Jill Bigelow look relieved to have this phase of their education behind them.

Lisa Foy seems to be overwhelmed with the graduation experience.

UNDERCLASSMEN 1987

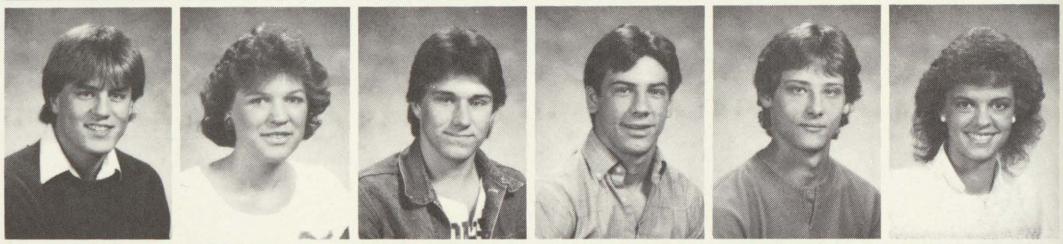
The Class of "88"

David Allen
Jorri Anderson
Michael Barber
Melissa Bott
Carrie Breedlove
Brian Briggs

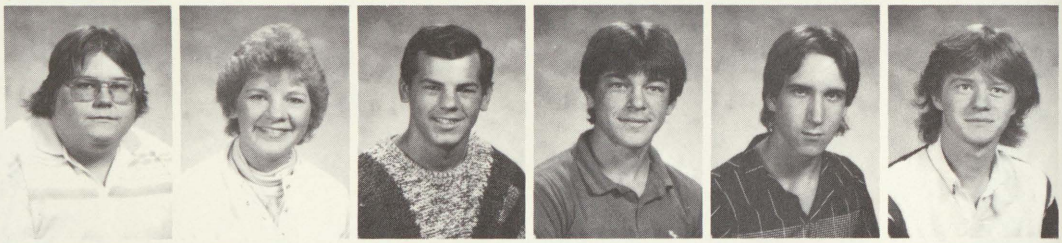


Scott Brokaw
Jeff Buckley
Katherine Burgoyne
Amy Carlson
Melissa Carr
Scott Clark

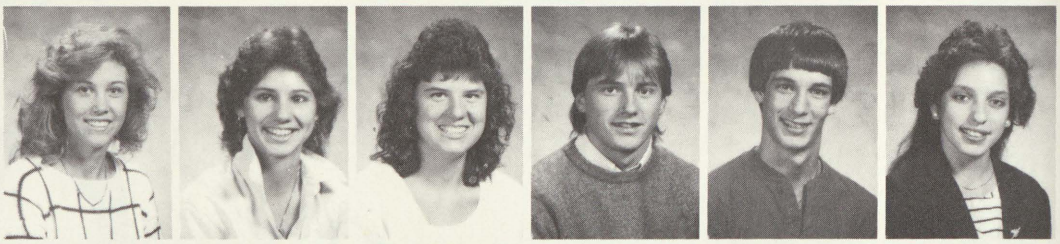
Benton Coppens
Christine Coty
Jon Davis
Bill Debeau
Timothy Doyle
Heather Draves



Kirk Dubois
Lydia Duensing
Thomas Duensing
Scott DuRussel
Steven Eastman
Raymond Ellis

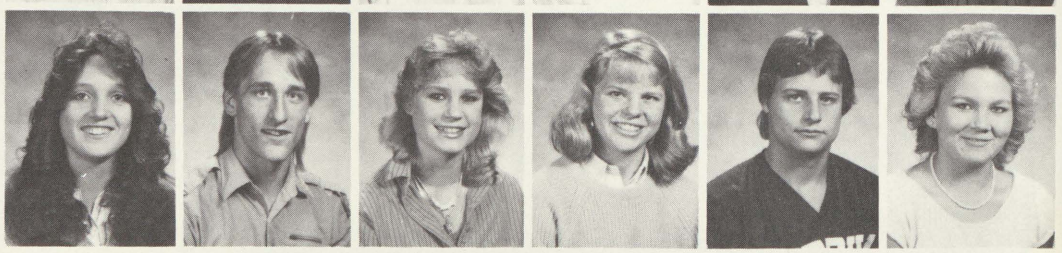


Becky Ellsworth
Stacy Eppler
Annette Erskine
Archie Federspiel
Michael Fick
Marlane Filipiak



Brian Foor
Andrew Fortin
Christy Foust
Patricia Foy
Tina Gross
Nicole Gutknecht

Antonia Guzinski
Tim Guzinski
Nicole Haller
Hannah Hensel
Curtis Hockemeyer
Michelle Hodges



The Class of "88"

Brenda Hollingsworth
Michelle Horny
Eileen Howe
Heather Hyatt
Cynthia Jerry
William Johnson

Kellie Keidel
Sherry Knapp
Greg Kollhoff
Trisha Kopta
Cindy Kostal
Darrin Kroll

Randy Kroll
Holly Larkin
Julie Lauckner
Kurt Limberg
Leesa Locke
Greg Miller

Greg Miller
Ranee Miller
Janet Minnick
Becky Mosher
Jeannine Moulton
Kurt Munger

George Nelson
Florinda Ornelas
Glen Pettigrove
Richard Phillips
Cris Purcell
Scott Rinz

Amanda Rohn
Patrick Rousseau
Dana Sierakowski
Kyle Siler
Lisa Siler
Melissa Siler

Stephanie Siler
Jeff Smith
Tim Sporcic
Lisa Stanford
Robert Stark
Daniel Stewart

The Class of "88"

Stanley Stroiwas
Darcy Teal
Jenni Vican

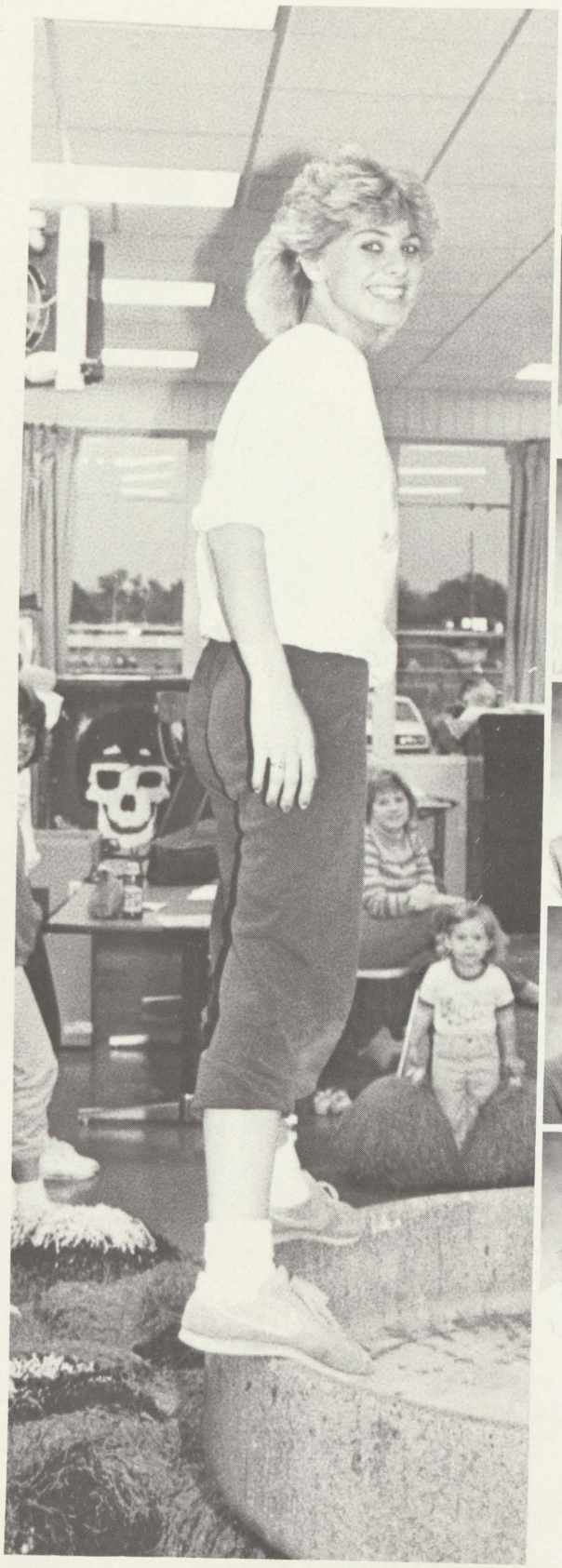
Amy Viola
Brian Volz
Rodney Wagoner

Chere Walker
Ann Wallis
Gary Waters

Daniel Watkins
David Wenzel
Dawn Wenzel

Laurie Wenzel
Shannon Wenzel
Regina Windom

Susan Wuolukka



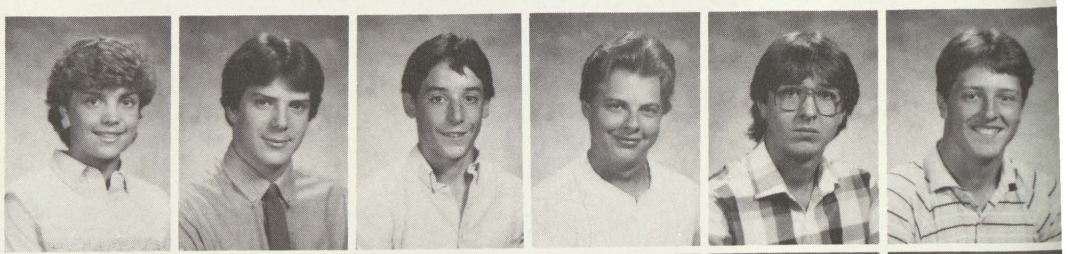
Missing:
Edwin Euler
Grant Glazier
Dennis Hicks
Thomas McMahon Jr.
Jason Pontseele
Ann Stennett
John Wagner
Jack Stennett

Right: Jeannine Moulton on the edge.

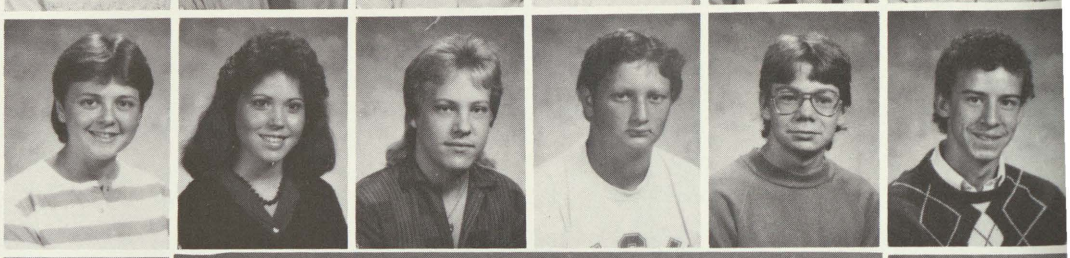
Sophomores

The Class of "89"

Amy Alvis
Jefferey Barber
John Barrera
Leroy Bayn
Jefferey Beougher
Scott Blair



Karen Bott
Christina Brokaw
Joe Brush
Robert Burns
Joseph Cermak
Jeffrey Clark



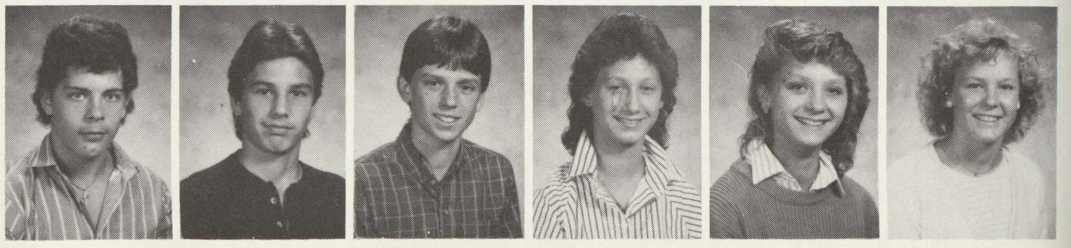
Cheryl Colpean
Marcia Colpean

Kenneth Coppens
Michael Deshone

Carrie Duensing
Marilyn Erickson

Kenneth Felker
Ronald Fischer
Michele Fleming
Sara Fleming
Scott Fleming
Gwendolyn Good

Richard Goward
Matt Gulick
Bret Gutknecht
Angela Guzinski
Annette Guzinski
Lesly Hale



The Class of "89"

Tammy Heinlein
Malissa Hesse
Cheryl Hockemeyer
Amy Hodges
Heather Hodges
Paul Hogan

David Hyatt
Mark Jacobs
Michael Kackmeister

Cindy Kennedy
Matthew Kennedy
Michelle Keyes

Center: Sophomores show their spirit at a Football game.

Troy Lauer
Michele Lednicky
Laurie Letson

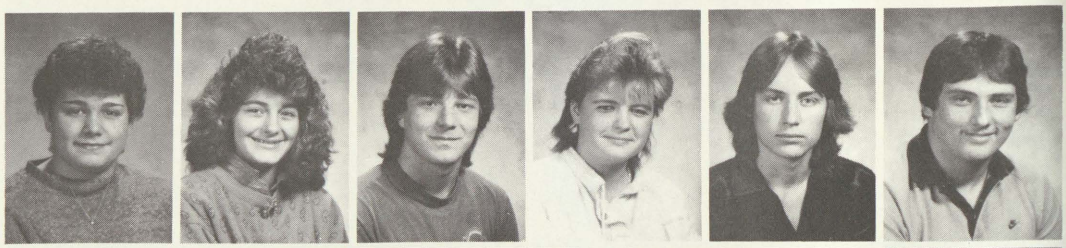
Bradley Hedrich
Jason Mallek
Kristy Meyer
Maureen Michael
Joel Mikusko
Scott Mikusko

Marlene Miller
Maurene Miller
Michelle Miller
Ronald Morrison
Christine Nieman
Pamela Nieman

Aaron Overton
Juliana Patrick
Craig Perry
Daniel Pesce

The Class of "89"

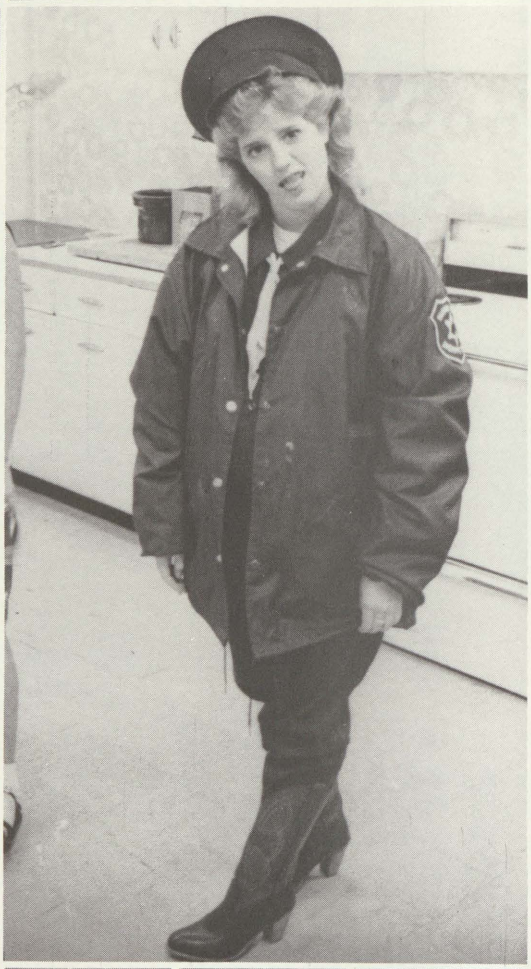
Tonia Peters
Traci Petricevic
Mark Prosser
Caroline Riegle
Jerry Riegle
Daniel Rigg



Laura Rosier
Edward Rowley
Mark Searles

Amy Shook
Joddie Siler
Duane Smith

Center: Suzanne Snyder, a "Law" Student

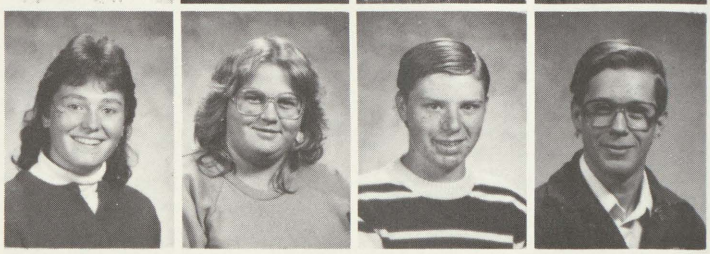


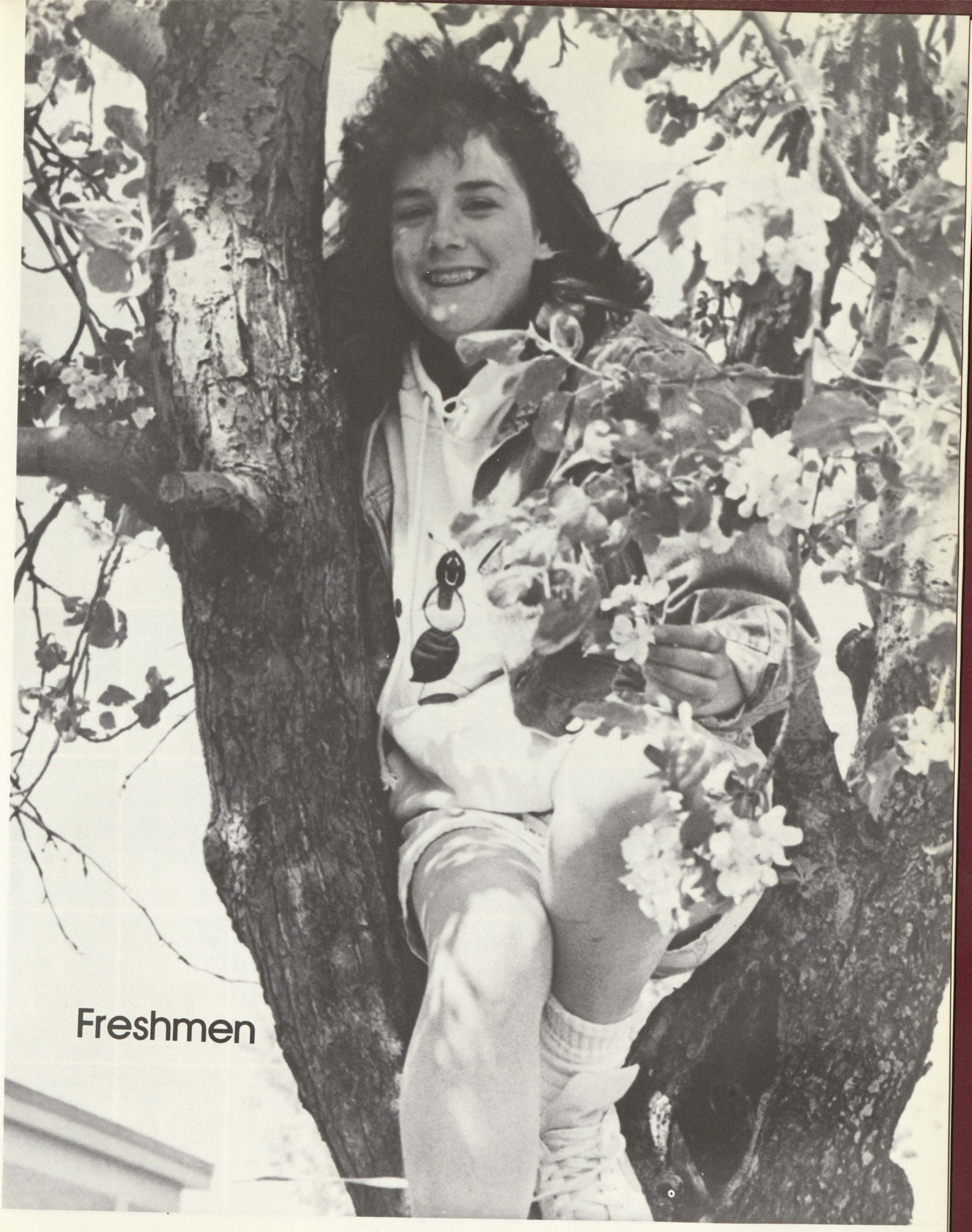
Suzanne Snyder
Shawn Stefanski
Bradley Tack

Donald Thom
Heather Vedrode
Jeffrey Vican

Mary Lou Volz
Heidi Wale
Dana Wenzel
Jennifer White
Eric Willman
Jill Wood

Tammy Woodard
Jackie Wuolukka
Eddie Zieroff
Harry Gath

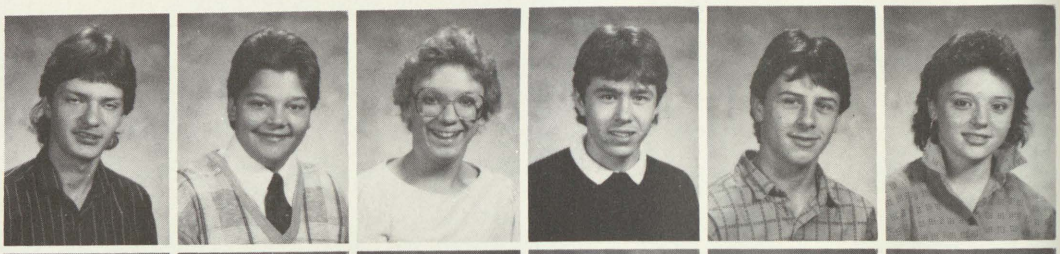




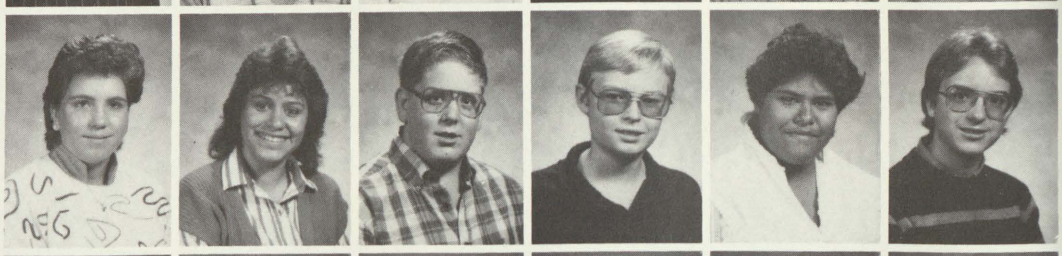
Freshmen

The Class of "90"

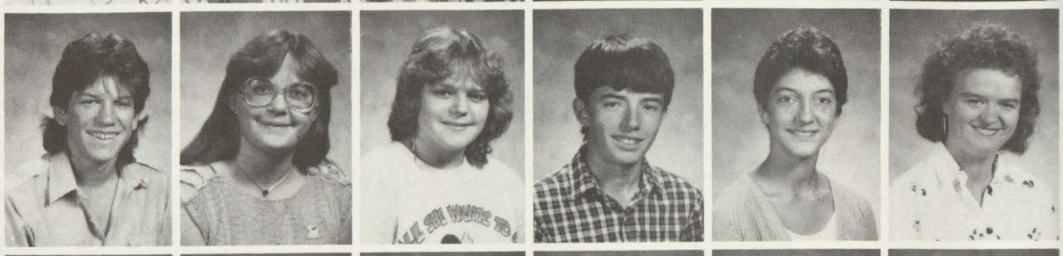
Scott Arrand
Gene Baase
Vickie Baker
David Beckley
David Berger
Tamara Bott



Brandy Bradshaw
Traica Brown
David Brownell
James Campbell
Cecilia Castillo
Joey Cook

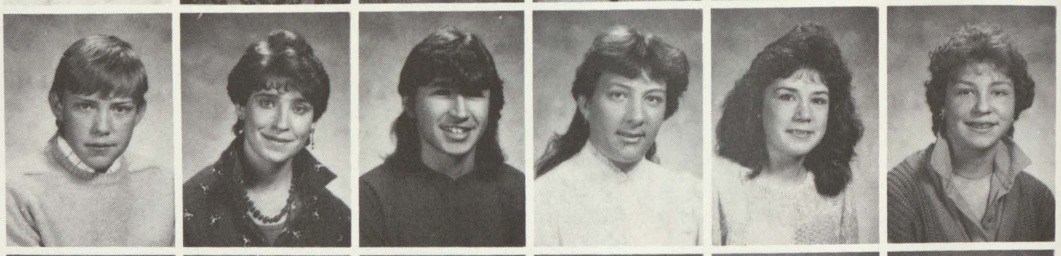


Kenneth Coty
Helen Dickerson
Tammy Dillon
Donald Drews
Valerie DuRussel
Vickie Erlenbeck

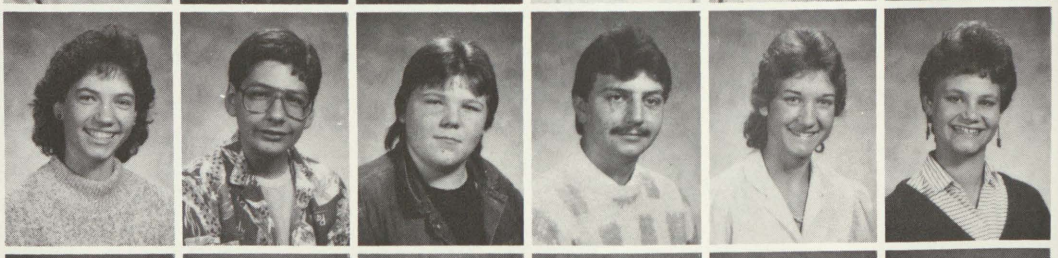


Scott Fleming
Jennifer Hall
Emily Hayes
Lisa Hernandez
Karrie Johnson
Mary Jane Johnson

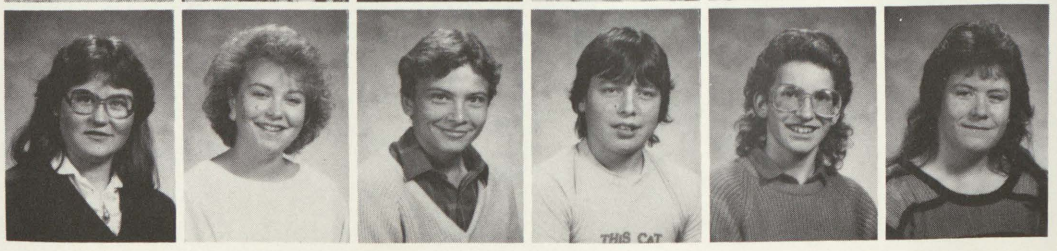
Michael Johnston
Lori June
James Kafka
Kathy Kennedy
Lori Kennedy
Louanne Kennedy



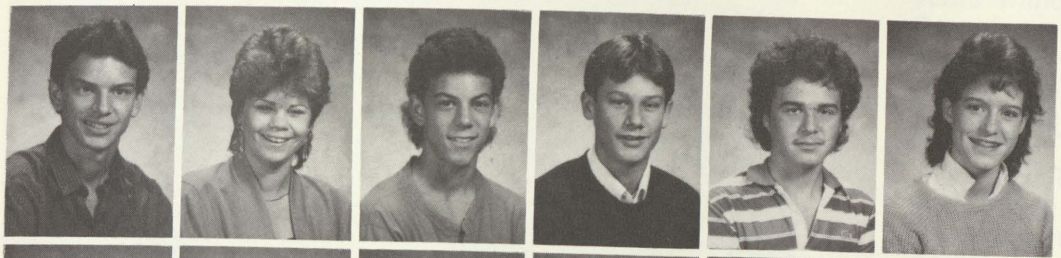
Lori Knapp
Nicodem Krasinski
Price Lauer
Todd Liedeke
Elizabeth Little
Threasa Londry



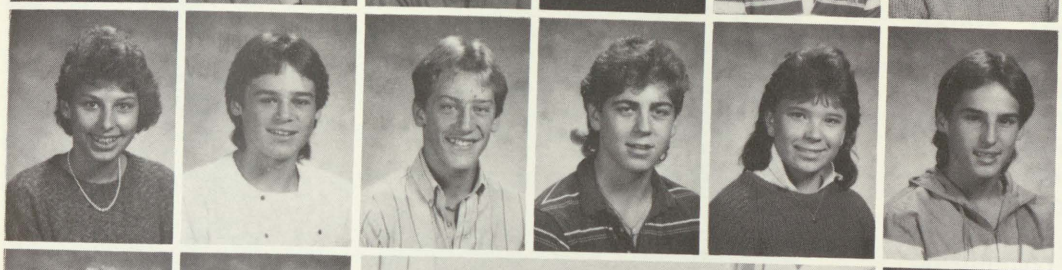
Rachel Lowery
Cheri Mallek
Brian McCormick
Michael Moulton
LeeAnn Munger
Anne Murgittroyd



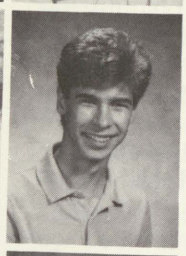
The Class of "90"



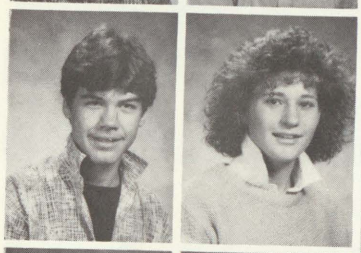
Timothy Neitzke
Marnie Nelson
Craig Nohel
Patrick Noyes
John Peters
Amy Pettigrove

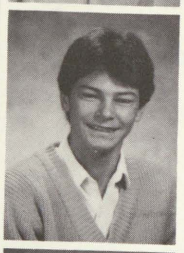


Susan Piwowarski
Jason Popour
Aron Radosa
Robert Reiber
April Reynolds
Matthew Rigg



Heidi Rohn
Richard Savage
Daniel Sherman

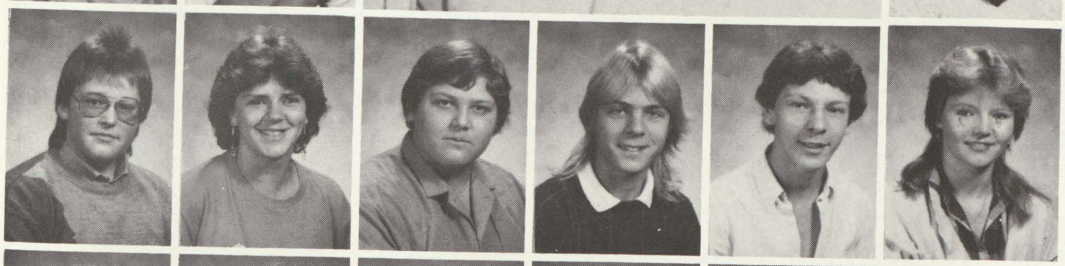




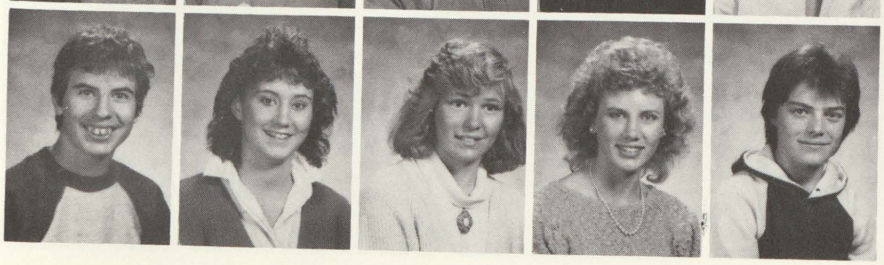
Ray Sholtz
Julie Siler
Thomas Siler

Center: April Reynolds cramming for a test.

Jo Anna Smith
Robbin Sporcic
Brenda Spurbeck



Spencer Swarthout
Heather Thomas
Eric Turbin
Chad Vlassis
Terry Waters
Peggy Watkins



Victor Wenzel
Lisa White
Amy Willman
Dana Witt
Phillip Woodard

Missing:
Denis Brown
Leslie Efu
Heather Felker
Kristina Hiner
Patrick Minto

Track

Top: Manuel Brown competes hard to represent Merrill High School well.

Bottom: Dennis Kalahar demonstrates his fine running ability.

Track was reinstated this year at Merrill High School after seven years without a school team. Coach Keith Popour encouraged the students in this sport which was a totally new experience to all of the members.

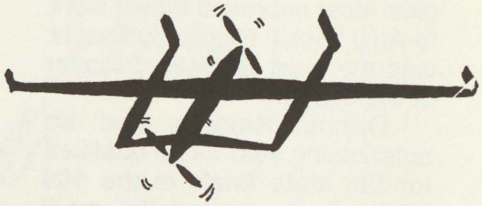
The boys earned a ranking of sixth in the conference. Lydia Duensing scored the most points for the girls and consequently was named Most Valuable Player. The honor of girls' Most Improved Player went to Amy Locke. Nicole Gutknecht was the Most Dedicated Player of the season.

Dennis Kalahar had an outstanding year as he qualified for the state finals in the 100 meter dash, scored the most points for the boys, and was elected Most Valuable Player. Tim Guzinski was named Most Improved Player. Dennis Hogan capped his senior year success by becoming Most Dedicated Player.

Above: Amy Locke takes a break from track to study her notes for British Literature.

Left: Merrill track team members listen to the officials as they announce the agenda for the inter-school meet.

CURRENT EVENTS



What a Voyage(r)

The airplane Voyager flew around the world, Nonstop, on one tank of fuel.

U.S. Sells Weapons to Iran.

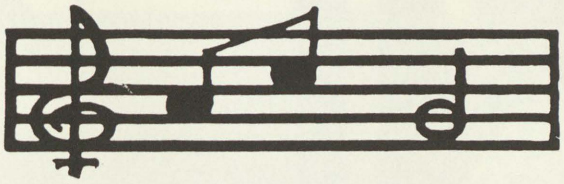
Did the president know of his cabinets illegal activities?

Michigan Turns 150!

Neneteen eighty-seven marked the sesquicentennial (150th Birthday) of our state. Special festivals and celebrations were held.

Rock-n-Roll

This years more popular artists were Bon Jovi, Madonna, and The Beastie Boys.



HONDA

Japan - V.S. - U.S.

Competition and growing U.S. trade deficits erode our industrial capibilities.

TOYOTA

GM MARK OF EXCELLENCE

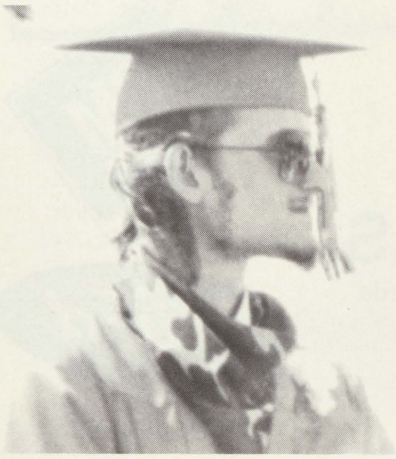
Ford

A New Plague?

Scientists show growing concern about AIDS. A deadly viral disease with no known cure.

Iraq Shoots U.S.S. Stark.

Iraqi war planes shoot a U.S. Frigate killing 38 sailors.



Dana Witt shows that M & M's melt in your mouth, not in your hand.

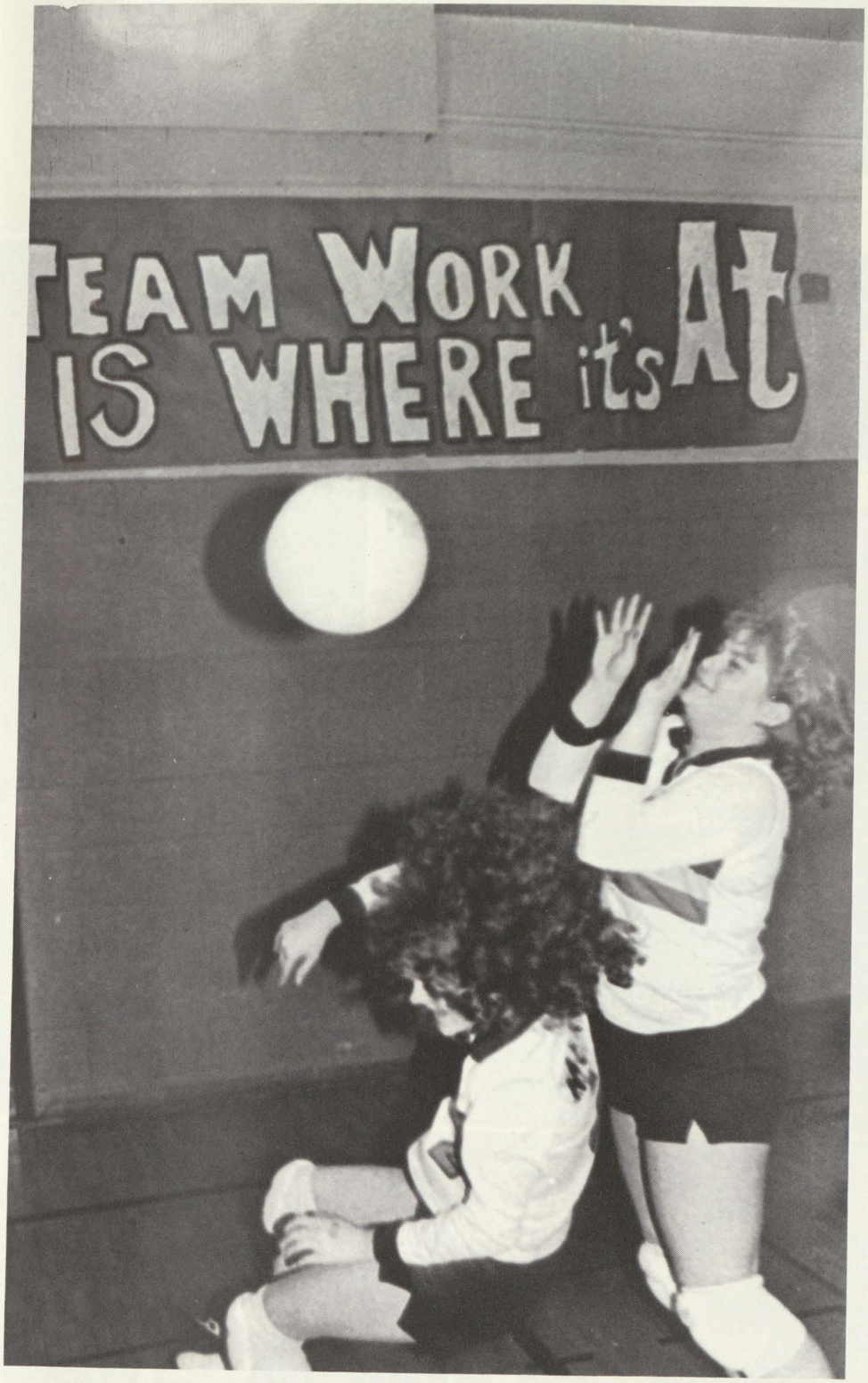
Jim Riegle looks to the future.

Sue Piwowarski laces up her shoes before a volleyball game.

Brian Kafka - a proud graduate.

Tim Ribble and Karen Honaman dressed in Shakespearean attire, act a dramatic scene for Honors British Literature class.

Conclusion

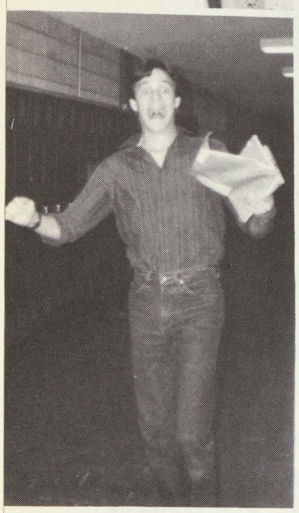


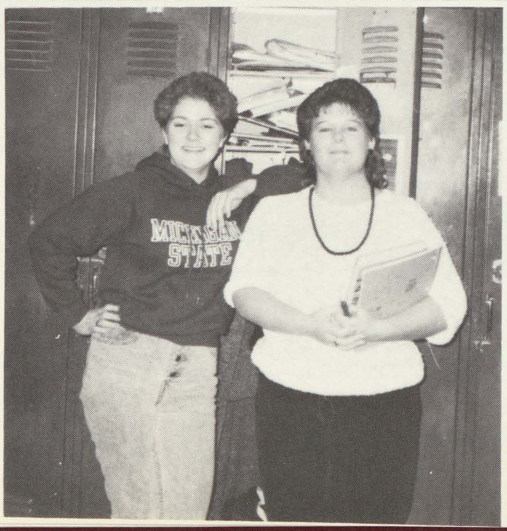
As this book draws to a close we would like to thank those individuals who put forth the effort and helped complete this book. A big THANK-YOU to Rosemary Baker and Kathy Florey, the Echoe's Advisors, who guided us through the good and not-so-good times. Special thanks to: Sherry Knapp who served as the Business Manager, Secretary Laura Rosier, Kurt Munger, Hannah Hensel, Julie Kennedy, Jodi Dougherty, Jodie Boyd, Joey Cook, Heidi Wale, Ranee Miller, Tammy Syrek, Krista Aulbert, the Merrill businesses who supported our efforts, and evervone else who helped make this edition of Echoes truly "One For the Books."
THANK YOU!

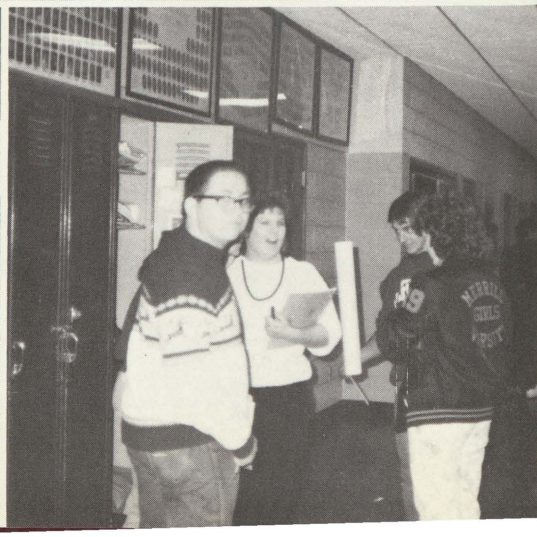
Andrew Fortin

Andrew Fortin,
Editor

Right: Teamwork, demonstrated by Traci Petricevic and Michelle Lednicky, is the key to success.







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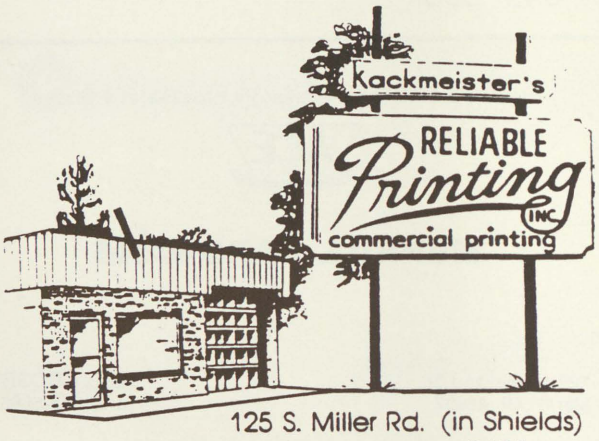

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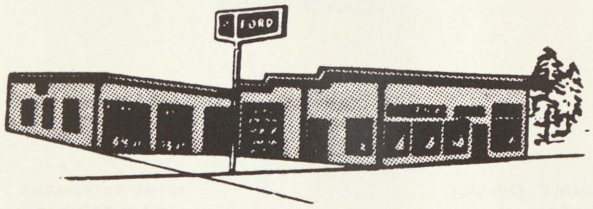

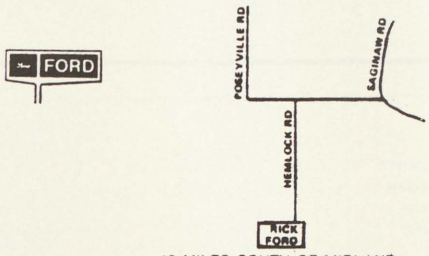

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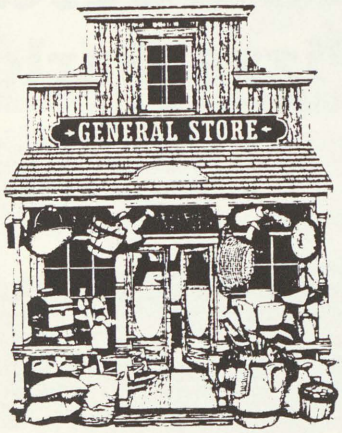

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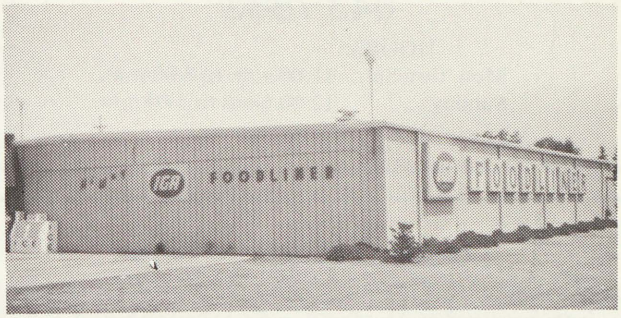

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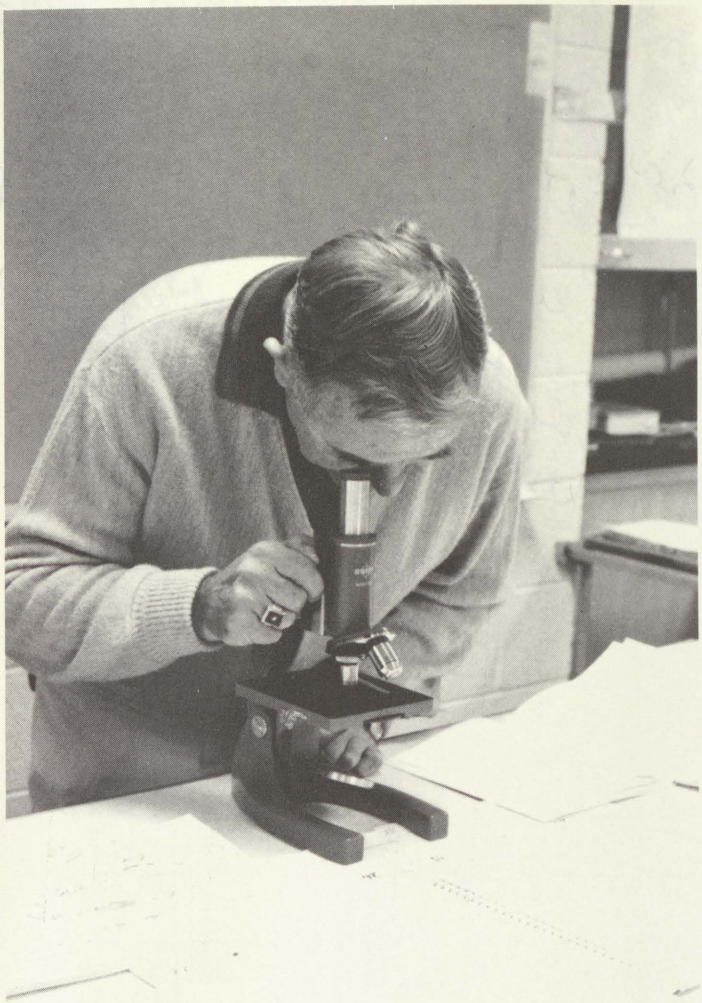
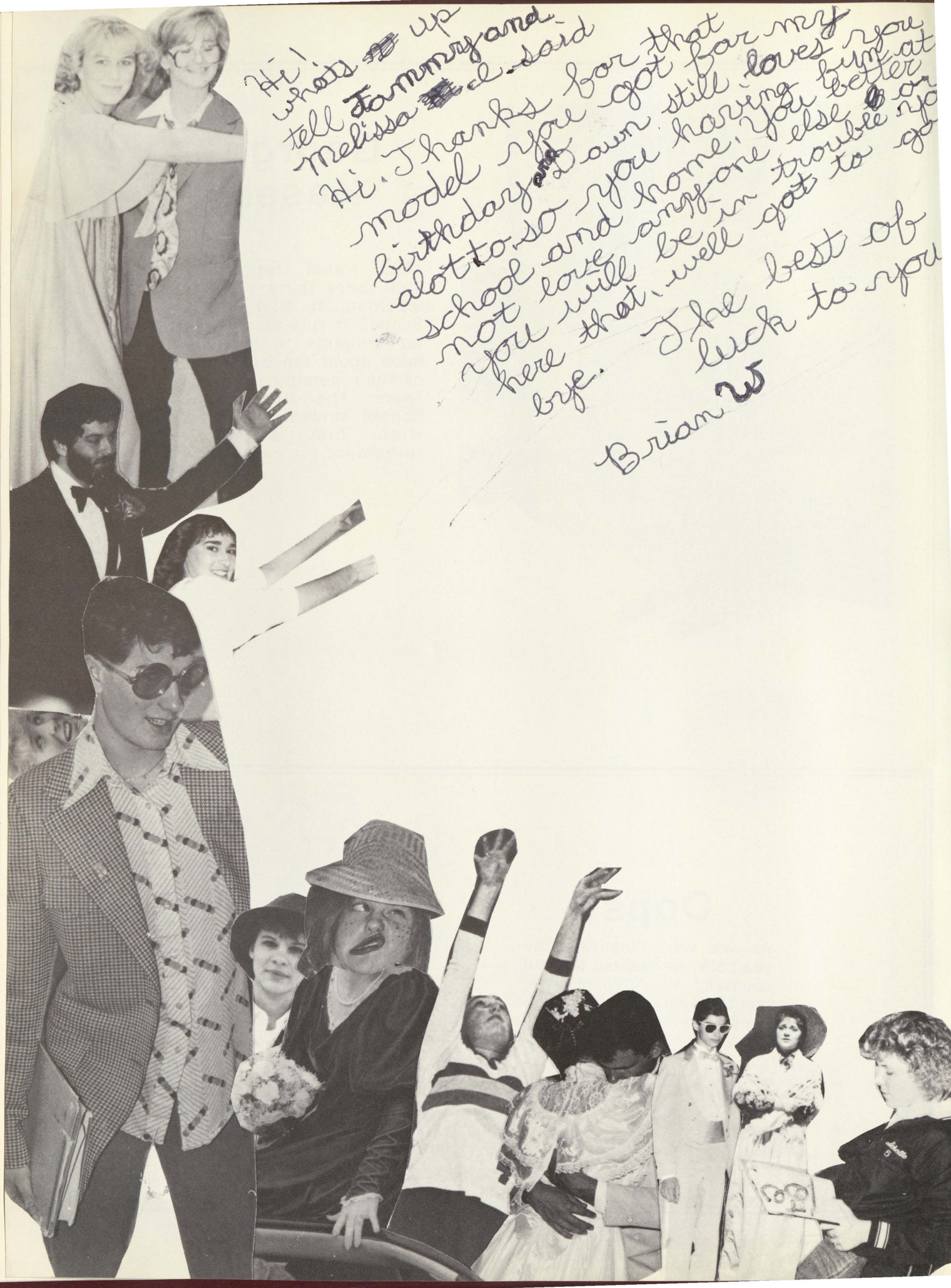


George Kasel

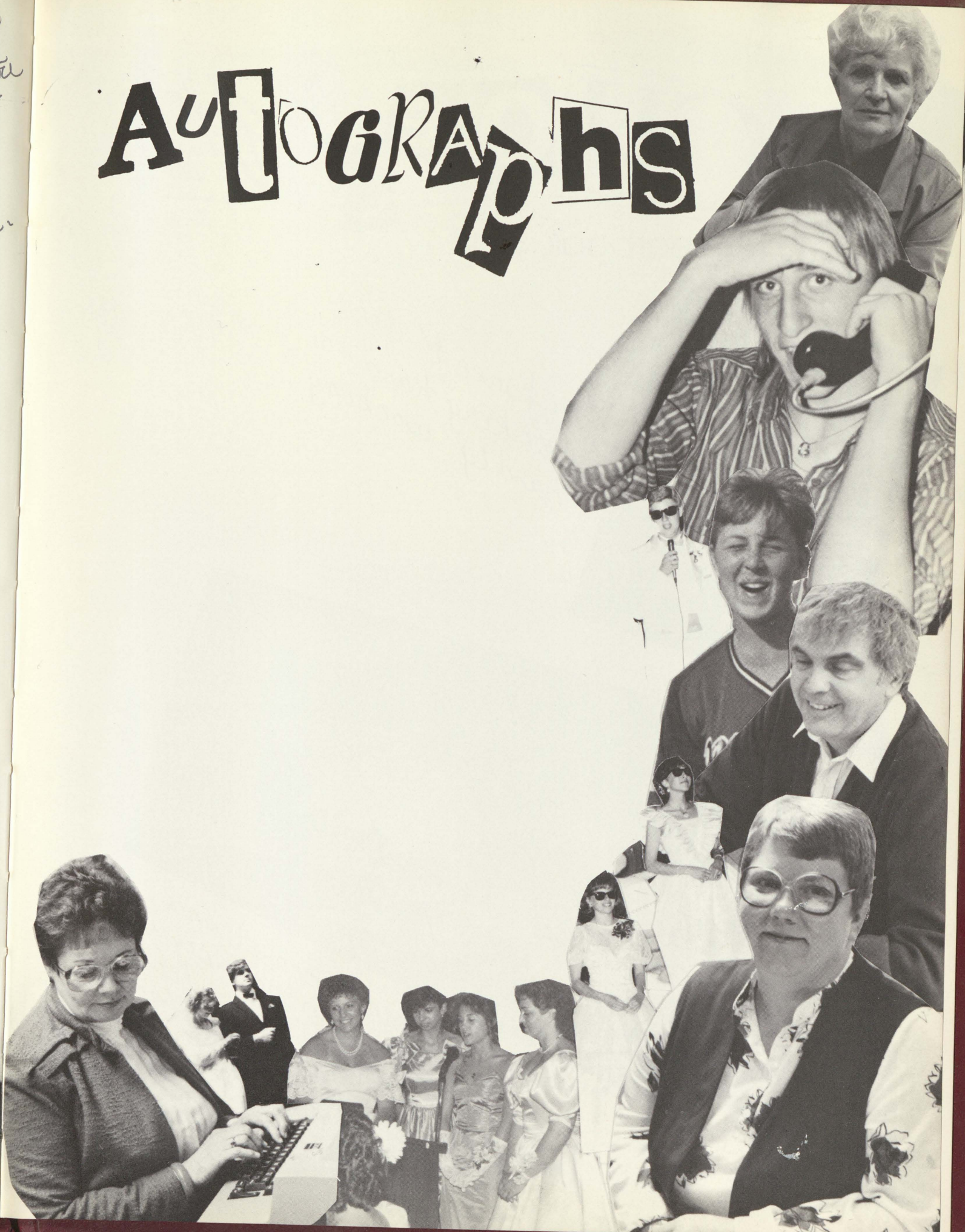
Mr. Kasel retired in June after thirty years of teaching at Merrill High School. It was entertaining for students to hear his tales about the escapades of their parents in earlier years. The Merrill High School students and staff wish him a happy retirement.

Oops!

As we were finalizing the yearbook, we realized that our counselor, Ms. A. Penni White, had been left out of the faculty pages. She is a very important member of our staff.

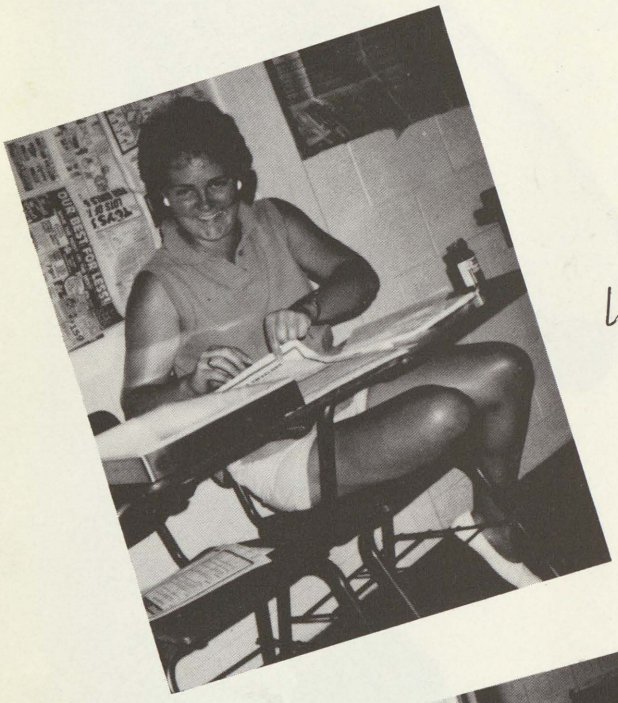

Hi! whats up
tell Tammy and
Melissa I said
Hi. Thanks for that
model you got for my
birthday and Dawn still loves you
alot to so you having fun at
school and home. You better
not love anyone else or
you will be in trouble yo
here that. well got to go
bye. The best of
luck to you
Brian W

AUTOGRAPHS

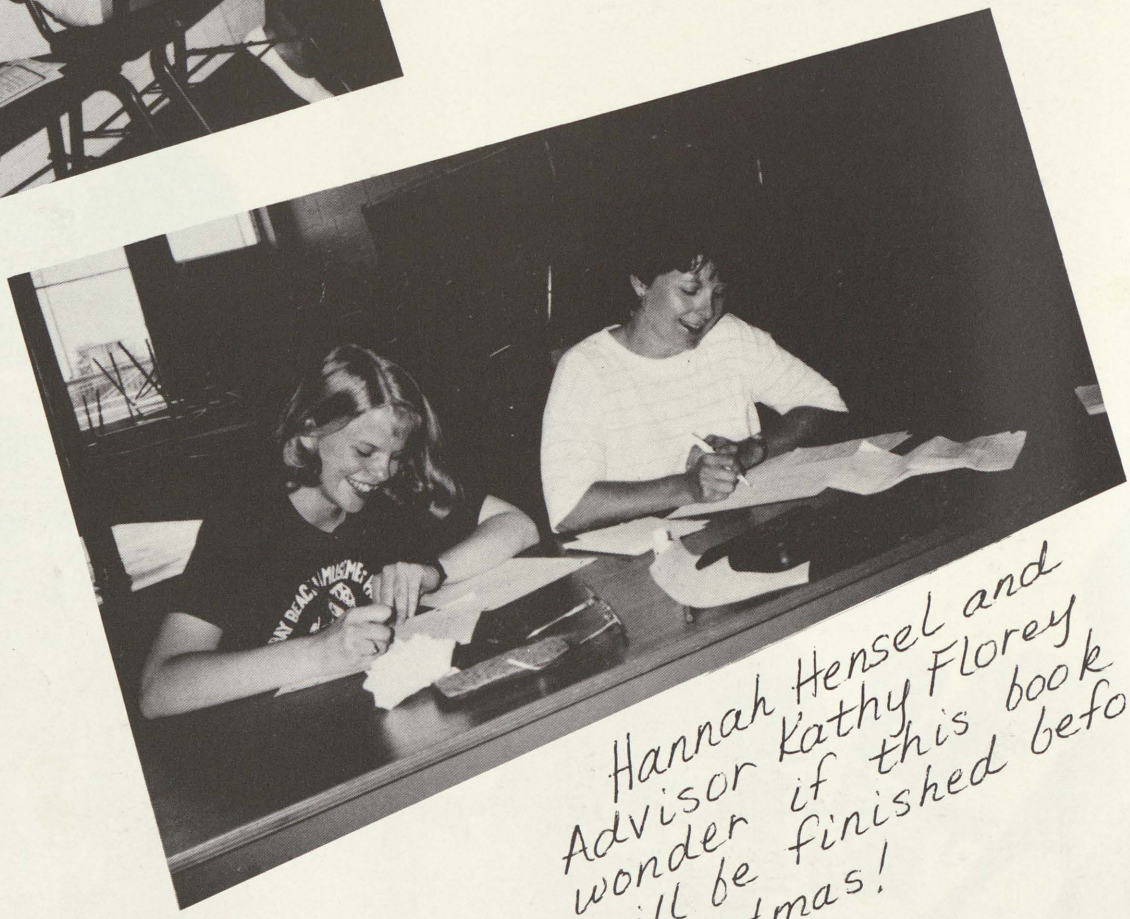


eCHOES '87

Yearbook Staff

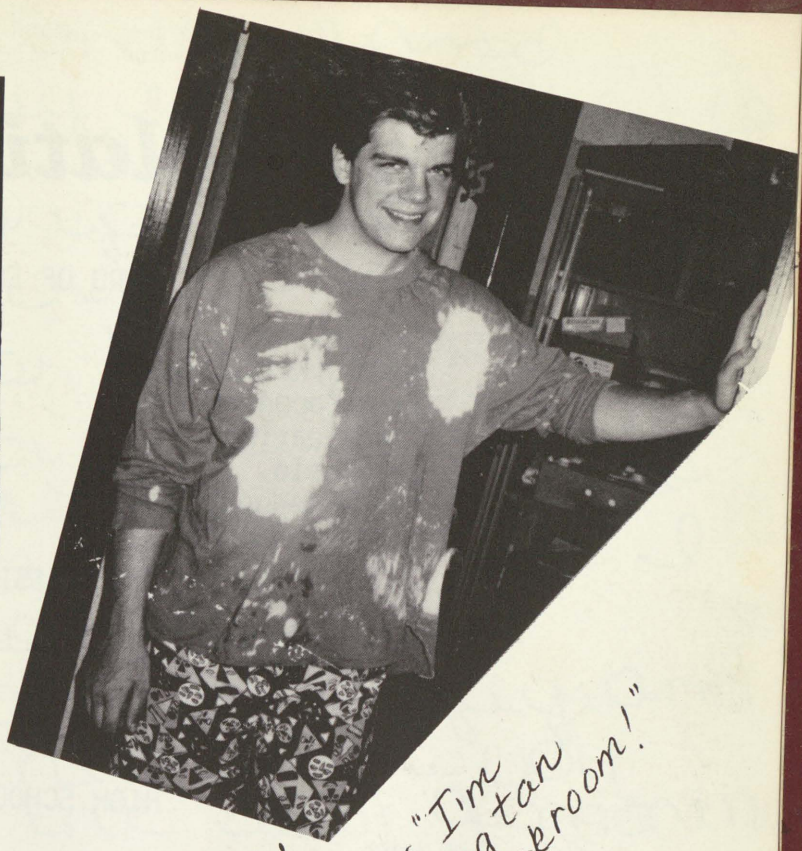


Ranee Miller
working hard - or
hardly working?

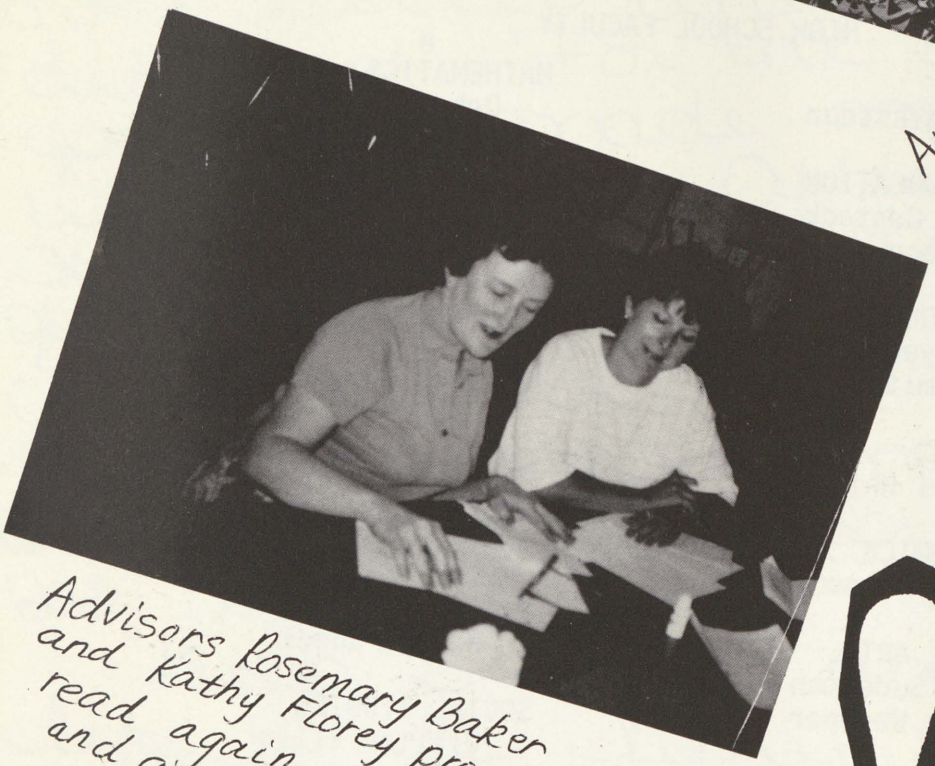


Hannah Hensel and
Advisor Kathy Florey
wonder if this book
will be finished before
Christmas!

Kurt Munger asks, "Can I go home now?"



Andy Fortin complains, "I'm not getting tan in this darkroom!"



Advisors Rosemary Baker and Kathy Florey proof-read again and again and again!

it's Done! AWESOME

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To the most wonderful and understanding guy ever: I want to let you know that I really appreciate all of the things you have done for me! I know we have had our ups + downs, but you are always there for me when I need you! you always listen to all of my problems when I need someone to talk you!
you are really a special guy, and don't ever let anyone tell you different! For the last 9 months you have made my life worth living. After that long it seems like we would be tired of each, but were not! We get closer by the days! Stay as sweet as you are, and don't ever change, because I love you just the way you are!

Keep Smilin' and live your life to its limit, 'kay?!

I Love you!

Love,

Dawn

"88"

Smile!

Marvin

To a special guy
who has come into all of our
lives. May the future bring
you everything you want.
Love
Mom Wenzel

Marvin,
How it going?
Here fine. I'm
in the library
with your women
that's how I got hold of
your book. Hope you don't
mind. It's been a long
time since we've talked.
I hope you get everything in
life and be happy. Well, I'll write
this go now other wise I'll write
all of this side. I love/Frenz, R.M.A.
P.S.
Hope we
keep in touch.
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